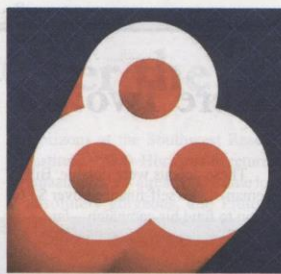




Big Red Football Prepares for a Big Year

See Pages 10 and 11



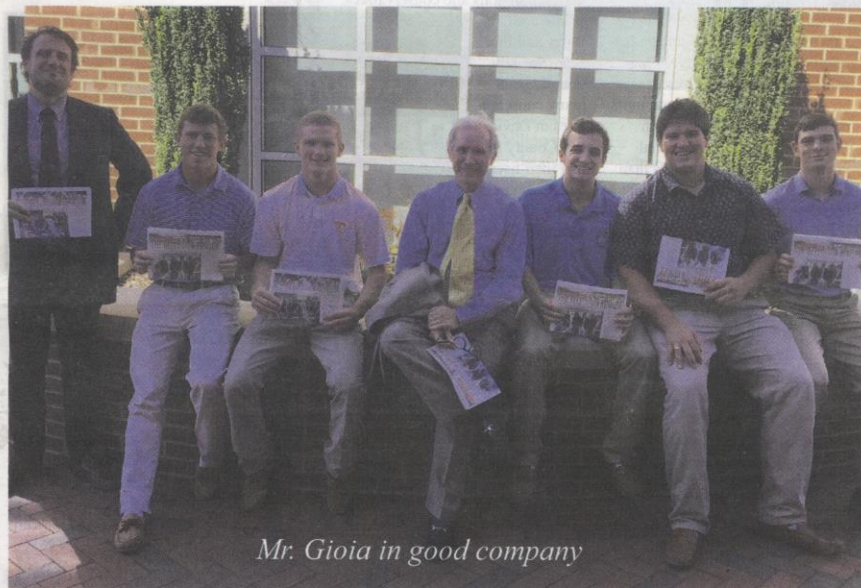
Bonnaroo Reigns Supreme

Big Red Seniors Take on
"The Farm." See Page 21

The Bell Ringer

Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN August 28 2015 Vol. LXXII, No. 1

Mr. Gioia: Up Close and Personal



Mr. Gioia in good company

By: Nolan Spear
Editor-in-Chief

As the headmaster of one of the finest schools in the South, Mr. Brad Gioia is a busy man, and this summer was no exception. Even so, he took the time to sit down with *The Bell Ringer* Editor-in-Chief Nolan Spear a few weeks ago to discuss his summer travels, the status of college admissions, his legacy on campus, and a host of other topics. *The Bell Ringer* thanks Mr. Gioia for his candid reflections on his life as MBA's tireless headmaster.

NS: How has your summer been? You and the administration traveled extensively. Where did everyone end up?

BG: Well, I've taken three large trips this summer. Every other year, the Board of Trustees plans a retreat to visit and observe other schools outside of Nashville. In past years, we've had the retreat here at MBA. So for the last 20 years, we have visited boarding and day schools all over

the country, from California to New York City to Texas to Albuquerque. But a few years ago, the Board asked me if I would be interested in going to look at the schools in England, Eton and Winchester, with whom we exchange students. It was a huge trip—almost 50 people in total.

NS: So everyone's bags, travel plans, and schedules had to be matched up and coordinated...

BG: Oh yes! It's a huge undertaking with a lot of logistics. It was a little overwhelming at first, having to handle 50 people's accommodations, but it worked out beautifully. The visits to Eton and Winchester were both fabulous, and we truly enjoyed ourselves.

The second trip I went on was to South Africa, accompanied by a group of eight MBA teachers. We went to the annual Boys' School Conference, which MBA hosted here last year. It was a very meaningful conference, and very powerful

in terms of the speakers.

We heard from the renowned Desmond Tutu as well as a very fascinating man who is coming to speak at MBA in September. He is the grandson of the former president of South Africa, an architect of apartheid responsible for putting Nelson Mandela in prison. He's spent his life trying to reconcile the past in a positive way, and he gave an amazing talk. His thesis was "pain not transformed is transmitted," which is a great thought to reflect on. He really emphasized the act of transforming pain into a positive output. His grandfather was the architect of something horrendous, but now he is trying to change his family's message.

My third endeavor was a trip to a meeting in Amsterdam discussing our programs in China along with innovations in technology—a very interesting trip.

>> CONTINUED, PAGE 6

Fuller Speaks on Upcoming Theater Season

By: Nolan Spear
Editor-in-Chief

Seemingly every new school year, the MBA Theater department outdoes itself by introducing a lineup of varied and highly entertaining productions. This coming fall is no different, as directors Janette Klocko, Cal Fuller, Malcolm Morrison and Nelson Berry have planned out five (potentially six) shows that vary greatly in plot and set production, all united by a common theme.

About a month ago, *The Bell Ringer* had the privilege of sitting down with Dr. Fuller at Dose Coffee and Tea Shop, his self-proclaimed "summer office," to discuss the upcoming theater season.

We began by discussing the 18th annual Harpeth Hall-MBA musical collaboration, *Emma*, which opens the first week of September. *Emma* is described as "a modern retelling of Jane Austen's novel which tells the story of an aspiring matchmaker who knows what everyone but herself." The Harpeth Hall's Eliza Trost as Emma. John Fioravanti ('17), Patrick Andreen ('17) and Jackson Wooten ('16), along with a host of other MBA and Harpeth Hall students, round out the cast of lead roles. *Emma* is a completely new production for director Janette Klocko, and boasts a lineup of modern-day ballads, including songs by Whitney Houston, Pat Benatar and a host of other artists. The cast has been rehearsing song and dance numbers since the end of July, and is well prepared for their September 2 opening.

Our next discussion focused on this year's competitive one-act show, an adaptation of William Faulkner's classic novel *As I Lay Dying*, which "revolves around the Bundren family's odyssey across the Mississippi countryside to bury their wife and mother, Addie." Senior Editor-In-Chief had a chance to ask Dr. Fuller several direct questions regarding his production of the show:

NS: So why *As I Lay Dying*? What made you choose it?

CF: Well, to start off, it's a classic piece of literature, and is taught in our senior AP English classes. So that right there was a pull for me. However, this year's production of *A.I.L.D.* is not my first. In fact, this fall marks the ten-year anniversary of MBA's last production of *A.I.L.D.*, a show which I directed and eventually took to Scotland to perform.

>> CONTINUED, PAGE 18

And Then There Were Two: an Update on the Race for Mayor

By: Andrew Kaplan
News Editor

The first round of Nashville mayoral elections has occurred and the field of candidates has been narrowed down from seven people to just two: Megan Barry and David Fox.

Because no candidate received 51% of the vote, there will be a runoff on September 10th between the two final candidates.

The election day of August 7th was full of surprises, as a late push by Fox's campaign proved enough to push him into the runoff over Bill Freeman and Charles Robert Bone, two candidates who were originally predicted to end up ahead of Fox. Additionally, an endorsement from *The Tennessean* helped propel Megan Barry into the final vote.

These defeats were notable. Bill Freeman—who self-financed over \$3.6 million to fund his campaign—far more than any other candidate. Freeman appeared at the top of early polls throughout the majority of the summer, as his constant cycle of television advertisements flooded the local news channels. On election night, Freeman was in disbelief: “You can’t work any harder than I worked, you can’t receive any more endorsements than I received, you can’t knock on any more doors than I knocked on. I don’t know what I did wrong, but we didn’t prevail – so we did something wrong.”

Regarding several key strategic components of the race, many have charged that Freeman did “do wrong.” After early voting, he was already in a 2,000 vote deficit. While Freeman polled the most votes on the actual election day, the deficit from early voting was too significant to overcome on August 7th. Freeman was most popular in areas such as North Nashville, where less potential voters turned out to the polls than citizens in West Nashville, where both Fox and Barry were more popular.

Bone also emerged disappointed. He had been seen as a

front runner throughout the race. But having run out of funding by Election Day, he was unable to secure a spot in the September runoff.

Other candidates who missed the runoff include Jeremy Kane, Howard Gentry, and Linda Eskind Reberovick. None of these contenders came close to the runoff, but each had sufficient turnouts to build on in future campaigns and non-political endeavors.

So the race runs on. With two candidates remaining, voting allegiances are beginning to shift, as voters who supported other candidates who are no longer in the race must decide who to support.

In many ways, the mayoral runoff is being showcased as a showdown between liberals and conservatives.

While both Barry and Fox share socially liberal views, many conservatives in Davidson County feel that their fiscal beliefs align well with Fox's vision for Nashville. And even though David

Fox is rather liberal compared to some of the candidates running for the GOP presidential nomination, Nashville conservatives can still identify with Fox more than Barry.

While Nashville tends to lean left, and seen as more liberal than conservative, Fox's plans for weakening the strength of a central city government have come with two key distinctions—that Fox proclaims being at least in the middle socially, as well as attempting to paint Barry as an ultra-left alternative.

Regardless of one's predispositions about political parties and ideologies, both candidates aim to pander to the generally liberal-minded electorate



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By: Hamilton Garber
Staff Writer

The impending contract between Iran and the United Nations Security Council has been ubiquitous in the news lately. The issue is hotly contested in the media. It is certainly a multi-faceted topic, involving human rights, the ethics of government, and the risk of nuclear proliferation.

President Obama is currently receiving a substantial amount of backlash from Congress regarding his avid support of the deal. Obama has gone as far as to say that should Congress reject the deal, he would approve it by executive order.

In order to better understand the implications of the deal and its possible effects on the U.S. and the Middle East, one must look closely at the specific terms of the agreement.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action is a good place to start. Its goal is to prevent, or at the very least impede, the production of nuclear weapons by the Republic of Iran. The terms require that Iran eliminate 97% of its uranium stockpile (From 10,000 kg to 300 kg), that its remaining uranium have an enrichment of only 3.67% (as compared to the needed 20% for medical use and 90% for weapons use), that its functioning centrifuges be decreased from 20,000 units to 5,000 units, and that inspections conducted by the U.S. and U.N. be allowed.

In return, Iran will receive relief from its crippling economic sanctions (around \$120 billion) that have been wrecking its economy and stifling growth throughout the past decade. The terms of the deal would make it nearly impossible for Iran to construct a nuclear weapon, and even if they tried, it would be impossible for the construction to go unnoticed. Obama stated confidently, “Every pathway to a nuclear weapon is cut off.”

The agreement sounds plausible on paper. The suffering Iranian economy will get back on its feet, and the threat of nuclear war with Iran will decrease dramatically. However, many skeptics see the deal as too good to be true.

First, the plan puts a large deal of trust in Iran, despite its having openly spoken out against the U.S. and Israel. In fact, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister of Israel, has called the accord a “stunning mistake,” as he sees the accord as an inhibitor not on Iran's ability to construct weapons, but for the rest of the world to monitor Iran and keep their activities in check.

Second, Iran is still a theocracy, supporting radical Islamic groups such as terrorist organizations Hezbollah and Hamas. By lifting economic sanctions worth around \$120 billion

US-Iran Deal: Understanding the Facts



LEFT: US Secretary of State shakes hands with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. PHOTO: thefair.org.

A final concern of the deal is the inspection of the nuclear facilities. The agreement allows for full inspection of any nuclear facility in Iran, but not without a twenty-four day warning prior to the inspection. Some believe that 24 days is long enough for the Iranian researchers to be able to stash any illicit nuclear technology before allowing in inspectors.

However, it would be extremely hard to obscure the evidence enough to throw off the U.S. and U.N.

One confident panel member states, “If Iran were to cheat, there is almost a 100% chance they would be caught.”

Additionally, there are measures in place that call for the reinstatement of economic sanctions if Iran cheats or is disobedient in any way.

It is difficult to foresee the outcome of this deal, as there is still a great deal of negotiating to be done in Congress and abroad before the accord is officially approved. With all the facts in place, the U.S. and U.N. are placing a great deal of trust in Iran. Many doubters believe the risk of nuclear proliferation is too great. Nevertheless, for better or for worse, the West's relationship with Iran has been changed forever.

and counting, the U.N. could be giving money to these non-state actors indirectly.

The main concern for critics of the deal, such as U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, is that it does not completely disable Iran's nuclear program, and the absence of sanctions allows for the trade of ballistic missiles and other weapons in the near future.

“We are also greatly concerned that the resolution lifts restrictions on Iran's ballistic missiles in eight years and conventional arms in five years,” says Boehner.

Boehner has also criticized Obama for what he perceives as rushing into the agreement without giving Congress time to review it, nor the allowance of inspectors to see Iran's existing facilities beforehand.

“This is a bad start for a bad deal. The American people expect their representatives to review this potential agreement and stop Iran's push for a nuclear weapon, and we will continue our critical work to do just that.”

NASA Gets Busy Over the Summer

By: Jack Rankin
Staff Writer

NASA has been extremely busy this past year. They've developed an engine capable of taking humans to Mars. They've sent a probe to observe the farthest planet (an icy dwarf planet) in the solar system. They've discovered the most Earth-like planetary body in history.

To say they've made some accomplishments would be an understatement.

First off, NASA recently finished testing a next-generation, RS-25 super-engine that promises to take humans to Mars. The testing, which occurred August 13, 2015 at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, is promising, and the engineers are very excited about the final results.

According to CNET, the model includes four engines accompanied by two boosters which will launch the "dream mission to space." Kathryn Crowe, the propulsion engineer on the engine, explained, "It is the most complicated rocket engine out there on the market, but that's because it's the Ferrari of rocket engines."

The super-engine should allow spacecrafts to travel at astonishing speeds upwards of 36,500 kilometers per hour. Its four turbo pumps allow these speeds by generating a staggering 12 million horsepower. The engine is also capable of withstanding much higher pressures and temperatures than any engine in the past.

NASA still needs to run a few more tests on other engine parts to see they all work together. If the rehearsal runs continue with similar success to past tests, the world should be in for a spectacular final show.

Secondly, NASA has made significant discoveries involving the former

"Pluto New Horizons is a true mission of exploration as it shows us why basic scientific research is so important," said John Grunsfield, as-

sociate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington. "The mission has had nine years to build expectations about what we would see during closest approach to Pluto and Charon. Today, we get the first sampling of the scientific treasure collected during those critical moments, and I can tell you it dramatically surpasses those high expectations."

A new image of an equatorial region shows a mountain range with peaks at an apex of 11,000 feet above the surface. The mountains are estimated to be no more than 100 million years old—relatively young compared to a 4.56 billion year old solar system. This new data suggests that Pluto may still be geologically active today.

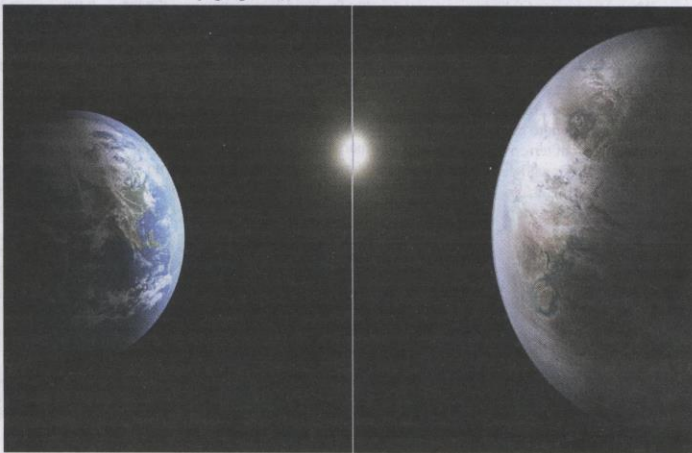
"This is one of the youngest surfaces we've ever seen in the solar system," explained Jeff Moore of the New Horizons Geology, Geophysics and Imaging Team. Unlike large icy moons of giant planets, Pluto cannot be heated by gravitational interactions with a much larger planetary body. Some other process is causing the mountainous landscape.

"This may cause us to rethink what powers geological activity on many other icy worlds," says GGI deputy team leader John Spencer at SwRI.

The probe also observed the

Horizons at the Southwest Research Institute. "New Horizons is returning amazing results already. The data looks absolutely gorgeous, and Pluto and

found an astonishing 4,000 planets in the "goldilocks zone." The discoveries generate hope among scientists that the human race is not alone in this vast universe.



Charon are just mind blowing."

The results of the first ever view close-up of the ex-planet provide unprecedented data in providing further understanding of our solar system and planetary bodies around similar distance from their host star such as Pluto.

Finally, and most significantly, NASA's Kepler mission has discovered and confirmed the ultimate prize of deep-space exploration: a planet nearly the size of Earth in the "habitable zone" around a sun-like star. The "habitable zone" can be described as the area around a star where liquid water could pool on the surface of an orbiting planet.

"Today, Earth is a little less lonely," Kepler researcher Jon Jenkins said.

The newly discovered planet, Kepler-42b, is the smallest planet to ever be discovered in this 'goldilocks' zone of a G2-type star, like our own sun. Kepler-42b, is approximately 1,400 light-years from Earth in the constellation Cygnus. It's about 60% larger than Earth, according to NASA, but a little further from its host star. Despite the fact that it's a little farther from its host star than Earth is from the sun, its star is brighter, so the planet gets around the same amount of energy from its star as Earth does from the sun.

The planet "almost certainly has an atmosphere," Jenkins explained, although scientists aren't sure what it is composed of. "If the assumptions are correct, 'Kepler 42b's atmosphere would probably be thicker than Earth's and it would have active volcanoes.'"

NASA estimates the planet has been in this orbit for around 6 billion years, giving it "plenty of time to brew life," says Jenkins.

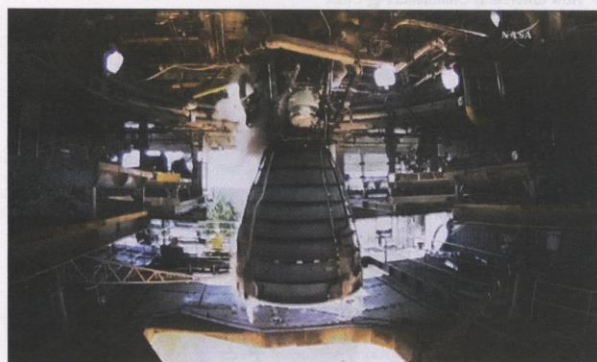
The Kepler spacecraft has been searching for new worlds outside of the Solar System since May 2009, and has

Because liquid water is fundamental to life on Earth, many scientists believe the search for extra-terrestrial life should focus on planets where liquid water is available. The planet must also be large enough to pull in gases such as hydrogen and helium to create an atmosphere. The task of the Kepler Satellite is to search and identify rocky planets between half and twice the size of Earth where water could still exist on the surface.

In 2017, NASA plans to launch a planet-hunting satellite called TESS. The satellite will be able to provide key information about the details of planets circling distant stars. NASA believes that this new platform "will provide incredible understanding of other worlds, including their color, seasonal differences, weather, and even the potential presence of vegetation," giving hope for exciting new discoveries in the near future.

LEFT: The RS-25 super-engine continued to be improved over the summer. **PHOTO:** NASA.gov.

ABOVE: An illustration of the comparison between Earth and Kepler 42b. **PHOTO:** NASA.gov.



planet Pluto. Icy mountains on Pluto, and a new view of the planet's largest moon, Charon, are among several of the recent discoveries captured by NASA's New Horizons space probe, which began its journey to the icy distant planet back in 2006.

smaller adherents of the icy dwarf planet, such as a sneak-peek image of Hydrda revealing is irregular shape, estimated to be about 27 by 20 miles. Additionally, Hydrda's surface is probably coated with ice.

"Home run!" exclaimed Alan Stern, principal investigator for New



Lauding the Summer of Trump or How I Learned to Embrace "The Donald"

By: John Glover
Staff Writer

When I first started following celebrity billionaire-turned GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump, I wasn't sure what to make of him. At this critical juncture in world history, an array of challenges threaten our nation's future, from corporate influence over government to climate change to the growing threat of terrorism. In light of these troubles, the Donald descended from his perch in the Manhattan skyscraper that bears his name on his own private escalator to declare to the huddled masses assembled before him his plan to "Make America Great Again!"

Don't get me wrong; his style could hardly be misconstrued as offensive. I don't know about you, but I get all my news from Fox. "Offensive," like "racist," is just a word employed by liberal elites to keep heroes like Donald Trump from speaking the truth. It's really less a question of offense as of priorities. Once you recognize the fact that the "America" for which Mr. Trump is fighting is far different from the America a certain Kenyan-born, secret Muslim president-elect promised us in 2008, he's really much more appealing. Did I mention Trump was the first one to ask to see a birth certificate?

All else aside, it's not as if we don't have problems, too. Seven years of Obama has reaped all sorts of backwards liberal shenanigans under the guise of "Progressivism," but this isn't your grandpa's Southern Strategy. Gays can get married now, for God's sake! Meanwhile, our Second Amendment rights are being sabotaged, poor people have healthcare, and a bunch of freeloading, drug-muling



aliens get amnesty while terrorists are being pardoned and released from Guantanamo back onto the very same Middle Eastern battlefields from which they were captured.

Given the mess our next president will inherit, as "tasteful" and "articulate" as Trump's campaign has been, the questions voters should be asking themselves aren't ones of personal appeal. In times of crisis, ideals must give way to pragmatism and concrete action. Ask yourself if you really

think nominating a churlish, chimpanzee-looking, misogynistic bigot with zero political experience is really a good idea. I sure do, and I'll tell you why. "It's the economy, stupid," or as our good friend Donald would say, "I'm really rich."

His is a true rags-to-riches success story. Trump worked his way from the streets of Brooklyn to running his own multi-billion dollar for-profit corporation. Well, actually he inherited \$200 million from his father, but no need to get bogged down in the details. Maybe Trump has never actually held an elected

truth. That's right, in a testosterone-filled wave of bravado, the likes of which our election cycle has scarcely imagined, much less seen, Trump proclaimed, "The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make US manufacturing non-competitive." Don't you just love this guy?! Citing zero models, data, research, or so much as a single expert to substantiate his claim, Trump has singlehandedly debunked a consensus shared by 99% of the scientific community. Finally, I can drive my SUV without feeling guilty!



office, but the guy has purchased plenty of them. The Donald personally accounts for millions in dark money campaign contributions to an array of candidates in both parties, from Hillary Clinton to Mitt Romney. I'm sick and tired of corporate interests coming before the welfare of the American people. It's due time we dumped all those other losers in the Koch brothers' pocket and elected a man so wealthy he's literally self-financing his entire campaign.

Not being beholden to the GOP establishment or campaign contributors has lots of other benefits too, not least the kind of no-nonsense "straight-talk" that has vaulted Trump to the top of the polls. Trump has channeled frustrations we all share but have been too scared to voice for fear of "political correctness." With choice insights like, "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending the best. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists," Trump's really hit the nail on the head. Never mind the truth (immigrants of Hispanic origin are actually statistically less likely to perpetrate sexual assault than white people are), those pendejos are "takin' our jobs!" and I, for one, am relieved somebody is finally sticking up for the oppressed white majority.

Further, as climate change is shaping up to be a key issue for voters in 2016, the Donald has done humanity a great service by uncovering a shocking

Facing an array of existential threats including the rise of ISIS and Russian aggression imperiling NATO cohesion and the security of Eastern Europe, you better believe The Donald has wasted no time extolling his exhaustive security credentials, explaining that "nobody's bigger or badder at the military than me." How different is Commander-in-Chief from CEO?

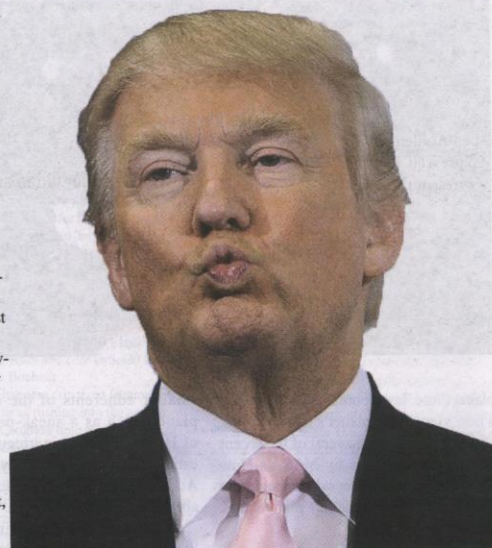
Listening to Trump, not very. If he's correct that Congress is little different from a board of executives and geopolitics is the same as hostile business tactics, Trump's just the man for the job. Having filed for bankruptcy no less than four times, his expertise is self-evident, while his strategy is

foolproof. I mean, how great would it be to have a president who can sit across the table from a foreign country and just say, "You're fired!" That's where the Donald's extensive experience as a reality TV show star will come in clutch. Asked how he would defeat ISIS, our future Commander-in-Trump said, "I would bomb the hell out of them and go in and take the oil. Then they'd have nothing." Ba da bing ba da boom; you're welcome, America. Trump just solved the Middle East.

I don't care that Mr. Trump's blanket proclamations may not stand up to fact checking. It just doesn't matter. The Donald is 100% 'merican and doesn't need to rely on facts or brain processing like some Liberal elitist. So how do I know he's right? I use my gut, and if my gut tells me that minorities are a bunch of no good "lazy rapists" in spite of facts, scientific data, and logic associated with downright basic human decency, that's my right as a 'merican gosh darn it, and don't let anyone tell you different. I'm not a racist; it's just matter of priorities.

As Donald says, "It doesn't matter what the liberal media writes as long as you have a young and beautiful piece of a**," and I think we can all say amen to that. Does that make me a bad person? Maybe, but obviously I'm not worried about what other people think. Like Donald, I know in my heart of hearts that I'm right, and I'm not about to let my head get in the way of that.

So when 2016 rolls around, I hope you make the right decision, even if it's not an informed one. As Jon Stewart once said, "Donald Trump is the part of your brain that says 'let's go take a s**t in the mailbox at 3 a.m.'" That's why I'm proud to recommend the Trump campaign a brand new slogan: "Trump 2016: Don't think about it. I know we didn't."





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Thoughts from the Editor: Be Here Now



As this school year begins, one thing I can't stress enough is the importance of carrying an attitude of enjoying the moment. I am currently in my 4th and final year at MBA, and it has all gone by very, very fast. It has been absurdly challenging at times, but at the same time, my experiences here have become my backbone, and I've had some of my most fun times with the people I have met on the Hill. With that being said, this issue's Opinions from the Editor come in the form of four pieces of advice.

Freshmen: "Undaunted, I knew the game was mine to win. Just like in life, all of my successes depend on me. I'm the man who has the ball."

Well, Kenny Powers is right in that statement. Learn it wisely. And welcome to the show! This year, freshmen, adapt the mantra of Senor Powers. Possess the ball. Grasp it firmly and tight, and don't mess around. Your grades absolutely matter. Cherish your days of innocence. The days of teachers granting you time extensions because you're "new to the game" will fly by quickly. Enjoy your time of sweet relief.

Sophomores: "Sometimes you've got to wash away the paint and reveal to the world the man that is hiding beneath."

You know who said that? Take a guess. Kenny Powers. You made it through year one; now you face chemistry, Mr. Moxley, and Dr. Bailey's puns. It does not get easier. In fact, it gets really, really hard. Very quickly. But on the bright side, you get to drive, and have your own homecoming after-party. Enjoy the little things.

Juniors: "This is me now. A man haunted by the sacrifices he's had to make. A man who ran and never looked back. I left my country to begin a new life. Soon, I was embraced by the natives. Soon enough, I felt like an entirely new person. I know this savage land was made for me. It's where outlaws go to die, and as that day nears, I take comfort in knowing that the lives of those I left behind are better off without me."

Kenny Powers speaks. I open this to your own interpretation.

Seniors: "And like any journey, if you stay the course long enough, the road might just show you what you need. All you got to do is keep your eyes on the road and your foot on the freaking gas."

Listen to Kenny. Admit nothing, deny everything, and make counter-accusations. Roll Red.

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Do you like to write, take photos or work on graphic design?

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Contact Nolan Spear, Joseph Scowden, Peter Taylor or Andrew Kaplan if you are interested.

>> *continued from front page*

I then came back to MBA and worked on various things, my wife and I went away for a couple of days...then I returned and headed off to Moscow!

I've been working with some friends, the headmaster of Winchester and the head of The Raffles School in Singapore, and we've been involved in the development of certain schools for bright but underprivileged kids. We've worked on a school in Africa, we've worked on a school in Slovakia, and now we're working on a school in Moscow. This is my second trip of this nature and it's a really good education for me because it makes me think about school life in a whole lot of ways.

I came back here on a Thursday night, then the next Friday I spent the day at the Governor's residence with about 25 members of a program entitled "The Trinity Forum." We gathered together to read and discuss a bunch of essays and excerpts from great writings relating to building one's own character and taking time to know yourself and others in a world full of distractions. That was a great day of semi-meditation. I really tried to think about myself as a person, and how the school can be better as a community.

"I'm really interested in capitalizing on some of the success we had last year in terms of spirit."

NS: Now what are some of your plans for fall? Obviously we've got football starting back up, and lots of alumni spending time on campus, but are there any other events in particular, maybe not talked about as much, that you're excited about?

BG: Well for starters, the opening of the new art area in Davis is going to be spectacular. We've worked on that all summer, and it is beautiful. I think it's going to be another powerful addition on the campus in its own way, like the dining hall—something that really sparkles and makes people pleased that they're working here. I'm very excited about the assembly speakers I've mentioned, and I think those will be great, interactive events for our community. I'm interested in capitalizing on some of the success we had last year in terms of spirit. Last year's group of leaders really brought people together and made participation in student life a priority.

I'm also excited about the new students and faculty we have. I'm excited to work with Dr. Boyd. I will miss Dr. Seay dearly, but I am pleased to see the ways in which Dr. Boyd is really energized about what he is doing. A lot of the things I talked about from this summer, whether it was the technology or the topics we heard in South Africa, I'm interested in how those will play out in making a difference here at MBA. Overall, I'm looking forward to a great 149th year.

"The rewards are big if you invest yourself in the right ways."

NS: Did you learn anything new as last year's seniors went through the whole college process? Obviously, large and well-known universities are becoming more and more exclusive every year, but did anything stand out in terms of how last year's seniors handled the application and decision process?

BG: Well actually, I have on my desk the last Vanderbilt magazine, and it is all about how incredibly difficult it is to get into competitive colleges like Vanderbilt. Topics like that have definitely made me think a whole lot more about helping seniors recognize that they can be much more in control of this process and have much more options if they are as independently minded and thoughtful as they need to be, and if they use all their assets to help them. For example, I'm really pleased about three guys in the senior class who may already have college options. One is Will Emerson, who is going to Stanford; then Jordan

is going to UCLA, and Connor to Villanova. It's just about putting yourself out there and using your coaches to your advantage.

Peer pressure in terms of applications, essays, and decisions is certainly present, but I believe our students do a great job handling it. It's easy to say that you're just going to apply to, let's say, a state school in the Southeast because you know you can get in and you don't want to worry too much about it. Well, the worrying aspect is hard to overcome, but I think the rewards are big if you invest yourself in the right ways. One of the reasons why we have done these Wilson Grants is to help people to explore more options and develop themselves in greater way, and it is going to have a big payback for the school. For example, look at the language department. There are all these boys going off on extensive grants, and they return much better language students. As a result, they're going to push the language teachers in their curriculum. And I love when stories and experiences from these grants are shared with other students, because it's a great example for the junior schoolers and rising freshmen that they really can immerse themselves here and become more well-rounded and interesting as people.

"We make a point to advertise the wide range of possibilities available to students who attend MBA—not just athletics, but theater and the arts as well."

NS: This next question relates to the upcoming 7th grade class. One thing I've always noticed about you, Mr. Ferrell and the rest of the admissions team is that you meet with and consider admitting kids from all different types of schools. This really stood out to me when I was speaking in front of the new 9th graders last week. I noticed we've got kids from not only Harding and Ensworth, but Linden Waldorf and Saint Henry, as well as homeschooled kids. I just wanted to know how the process works when you're working with and drawing kids in from places where not a lot of students have previously gone on to attend MBA.

BG: Well the first aspect is that it's good to get to know those schools a little bit better, particularly the administration staff, building good relationships with them so they trust us. We make a point to advertise the wide range of possibilities available to students who attend MBA—not just athletics, but theater and the arts as well. The competitiveness of the school helps as well, as it allows us to be more selective about whom we can take. It's helpful that we're getting kids from 40+ schools in the 7th grade, because prospective parents can look at our class and say, "Wow, they're not just taking kids from one particular area or school," and that draws people in to come and look at MBA.

"It's the people and the mission and the way the community lives that is most important."

NS: A final question. You've been here for, according to the Internet, 21 years and two months. What's your favorite thing that you've seen evolve on campus? And on the other side of that, are there any memories or items from the past that you really cherish?

BG: You've got my timeline down I see! My tenure has been quite long, and I'm grateful for that. I believe I'm built to stay in one place and not switch around amongst different places. I love the continuity of the people and the campus. You get to know people better and build genuine



relationships. You yourself evolve in a lot of ways, and that can really help the institution if you stay interested in what you are doing. People often leave institutions because they tire, as it's not easy work being a teacher or an administrator. If I didn't feel excited about our new teachers or potential speakers or what the classes are going to be like, it would tell me internally that I need to do something different. I think you have to know that about yourself and have that hunger.

NS: Maintaining enthusiasm seems like a big aspect of staying positive and effective as a teacher.

BG: Oh absolutely. You have to be able to laugh at it all and look at it in a positive way and say "This is what I enjoy doing!" Because it's not always easy, and people expect a lot out of you.

One of the things I've enjoyed is reshaping the campus in ways. We've added the Long Mountain property and the Sylvan Park property. In my time, I've worked on and improved almost every building on campus, and I'm really proud of that. I love the architecture of the campus and the way the grounds are set up—the fact that there are a lot of outdoor spaces for people to enjoy, along with how the buildings feel when you walk inside them. At the same time, I think anyone who sees life in the dimension of importance and significance would quickly say those are all nice things and they make the campus special, but it's the people and the mission and the way the community lives that is most important.

Seeing the way the students came together last year in spirit was probably as good as it gets for me. Seeing the faculty respond to a friend of mine who spoke at the school the other day, whose message was that it is most important to care for the boys, is the attitude that everyone should strive to attain. I think we all want the strengths and the excellence and the achievement, but in the end that's rather empty if you don't have the heart, a real sense of substance and meaning and care. Knowing the people is the most important.

Looking back, I think we want to continue to have a real sense of gratitude. A lot of what we have today would not be here if not for the people like older teachers and administrators that have come and gone. In my opinion, the people that had my job before me, along with the graduated students, really helped to form the character of the school. We've inherited a lot of gratitude, and we have to make it present in our day to day lives. I think that attitude humbles you a lot, because you realize how lucky you are, and you just want to keep that Boy Scout mantra of "Leave it better than how you found it." But don't think it's yours. It's everyone's. The school is everyone's to enjoy. It doesn't belong to just one person, and that's the message I really want to be conveyed by the community this year.

A Peek into the Outdoors

By: Mark Floyd
Staff Outdoorsman

The beginning of school signals the end of a season. A season of afternoons spent fishing on the river for smallmouth and mornings spent on the lake for largemouth. But all good things must come to an end... or do they?

Yes, summer is over, but as fall rolls around, that means that bass action is heating up. Large schools of shad and other baitfish will soon begin to school up by the hundreds and move into coves and bays in search of warmer water. Along with the baitfish come a plethora of predators. Bass, bream, crappie, and catfish will follow the shad into the coves. Crank-baits, spinner-baits, and Alabama rigs will be the go-to baits to hunt these guys down during the fall. Look for bass in any cove. Fish will tend to hang in close to any structure, so get right up next to any downed logs and hang on!

Fall also signals the start of hunting season, starting with squirrel season at the end of August. Early squirrel

season is as easy or hard as a hunter makes it. If you want to get a whole mess of squirrels for a BBQ, then grab the shotgun, toss in a full choke, and get out to the woods. If you want a challenge, then grab a .22 or a pellet gun and head out. Squirrels will give themselves away with the signature sound of teeth scratching acorns.

September is a big month for hunters. Early goose, teal, wood duck, and dove all open early in the month. There are many opportunities to chase all of these fine fowl. Most public lands offer dove fields to the public, and these fields can be feast or famine. Geese are also prevalent on most WMAs in the area. For geese, look for fields that are near dove fields. Most WMAs prohibit dove hunters from taking geese from a dove field, but adjacent fields are free for the taking.

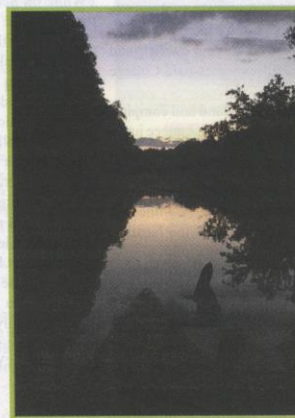
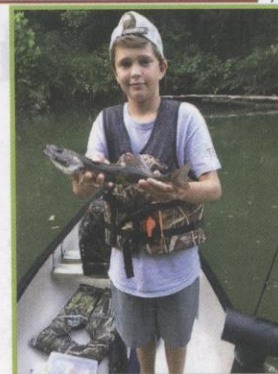
The long-anticipated deer season begins late September with bow season. If you have not started preparing, then get ready as this year is sure to be another record year for harvest numbers across the state. WMAs like Yanahli and Cheatham provide the dedicated bow-hunter many opportunities to harvest some nice bucks. Also, do not overlook WMAs like Cheatham Lake WMA. Cheatham Lake is known for its duck hunting, which means it gets much less pressure for deer hunting.

So while summer may be ending, the coming of fall brings the start to hot bass fishing and hunting season. So get the tree-stands out, bring out the crank-baits, and rig the decoys, because it is the best time of the year to be an outdoorsman.

LEFT: Asher Curmutte ('17) reels in a big catch over the summer.

RIGHT: Mark enjoying a sunset on the river.

ABOVE: Mark's 7th grade buddy William Clark with a fresh catch.



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Big Red Students Venture Overseas

By: John Fioravanti
Assisant Features Editor

If I were a parent considering whether to let my child attend MBA, I would have a lot of questions. Why pay for MBA? Why go there? Private education? Themes? New dining hall? Sure, those are good reasons. But MBA's singular immersion program is certainly something I would have to consider.

Whether Wilson Grants or other travel opportunities, MBA can send a student nearly anywhere in the world—oftentimes for free. And if you don't like the courses they offer, you can create your own trip and submit it for an all-expenses-paid College Counseling grant.

Going to New Zealand and completing a jump on the world's first bungee jump course is a trip in itself. Senior Bronson Bell didn't stop there on his recent New Zealand exchange this past summer. He stayed on a sheep farm where he witnessed a sheep slaughter and toured the bustling city, Queenstown.

"I toured the city and saw parts of the destruction from the 2011 earthquake," said Bronson, "but also was able to see how the Christ Church banded together to save their city."

After Bronson joined Christ's College for school, he "was welcomed into their family the first day." He then went on to discuss the homework load which, to no MBA student's surprise, was less than the Hill's. Even so, "the importance of learning was held high," said Bronson.

Across the hemisphere in the United Kingdom, Jackson Siktberg attended school in Winchester, about an hour southwest of London.

"The weather was great and the guys in my house were welcoming and so fun to hang out with," said Jackson. "The British classes are more discussion-based. You can really see what everyone's opinion is."

Jackson mentioned how Winchester

is comprised of people from all parts of the world. In its diversity it "gives you a perspective on how the entire world lives."

Taking a trip to Singapore, Diggs Truitt gained perspective on the Far East.

"The plane rides were long, but it was worth it," Diggs noted. "We would go to class in the morning, but had the freedom to explore Singapore most afternoons."

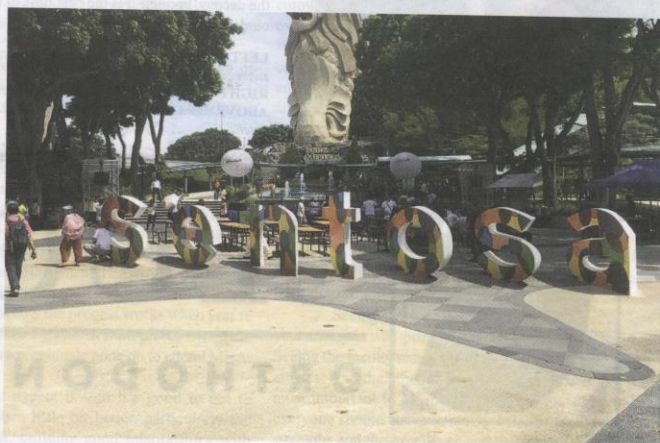
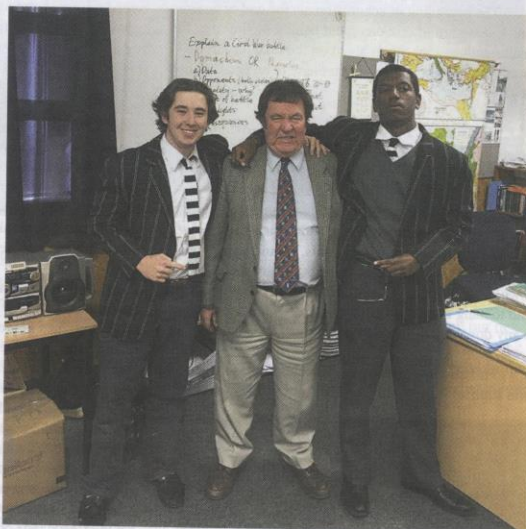
One of the places Diggs explored was Sentosa Island. Sentosa, advertised as the "state of fun," boasts beaches, golf, and all kinds of other adventurous activities. While on Sentosa, he ziplined and went to an aquarium.

Something Diggs also discovered was the wealth and affluence of Singapore. "Everything was very expensive, and the city was modern and clean. The subway was especially nice."

Overall, what's most valuable about these trips is that all the travel expenses for each trip were paid for by the Wilson family. Very few high school students around the country get such opportunities. And who knows how long these chances to travel will be around at MBA? If you were to ask anyone who traveled this year if, you yourself should go. Inevitably you find every boy with the same response: a resounding "Yes!"

TOP RIGHT: Bronson Bell ('16) poses with Sam Curry ('16) and a teacher while on exchange in New Zealand.

RIGHT: The entry scene to Sentosa Island, which was visited by Diggs Truitt ('16) while on exchange in Singapore.



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SPECIAL EVENTS

Division II AA Looks to Remain One of the Toughest Divisions in the Nation

By: Carter Lovorn
Opinions Editor

With school coming back into session, one of the first things on the minds of the students and community of MBA is the upcoming football season. Coming off a DIIAA state championship, there is a lot of hype for Team 117. While most of us are just beginning to think about the season and what to expect, the coaches and players have been prepping and planning throughout the dog days of summer.

Venturing beyond MBA, The Bell Ringer got the chance to interview a number of coaches from our league, learning about their teams and their thoughts on the 2015 season.

I'll start with the Big Red. Last year's team was full of heart. From willing themselves to a late two touchdown comeback against Ensforth to force overtime to holding off BA and Baylor during the regular season and playoffs, the team fought for every inch on Friday nights. As a fan, I felt confident in our team when I saw Cole Euverard, TJ Jefferson, and Austin Rolfe walking out for the coin tosses.

The leadership was incredible and will be missed dearly by this class of rising seniors. But the 2015 squad holds tons of promise. The team is stacked with talent and heart. In speaking on star junior running back Ty Chandler, Coach Euverard referenced his skill set, incredible work ethic, and competitive nature. On the offensive and defensive side of the ball, Jordan Wilson and Montgomery Owen are playmakers with incredible athletic abilities who will lead the large number of freshman and sophomores on the team. The team will also look for leadership from David Gaw and Sam Sullivan, linebackers with a contagious enthusiasm for the game.

With these strong playmakers along with an incredible O-line, the Big Red will be hard to stop. When asked Coach Euverard was asked which game he was most excited about, he replied, "Our first game! That's all that matters."

The team will take a step by step approach to the season, extensively game-planning opponents as they come along. It is a very exciting

time to be a fan of MBA football, and the team is looking to have another outstanding year.

On the other hand, it is also an exciting time to be a fan of any team in our division. "There are no off weeks in DII-AA. Every week will bring a new challenge whether it is MBA, BA, Ensforth, McCallie, Baylor, or Father Ryan...all are very respectable and prideful programs with great tradition," said JPII Coach Justin Geisinger. The varied strength of the teams in arguably the most competitive division in the state makes for an exciting and intense contest every single week.

Two of the schools people wonder about every year are Brentwood Academy and Ensforth. Heading into the season, BA is the number 1 ranked football team in the state according to the sports recruiting website "Max-Preps." Brentwood Academy, a relatively young team, had some growing pains last season, having to



swallow tough losses from MBA (52-44) and Ensforth (31-17). Jeremiah Oatsvall, having stepped in as a backup-turned-starter this past year, returns as quarterback along with highly-recruited

studs Camron Johnson, Bryce Matthews and Ryan Johnson.

Ensforth, as always, remains dangerous. All we needed to hear was that Darius Morehead will be back, and we knew to expect a winning record from our dear friends down Harding Road. The team is deep but young, and more experienced teams like BA and McCallie may be able to exploit this youth. McCallie, hailing from Chattanooga, remains yet another tough opponent in our division. Ja Vaughn Craig returns for McCallie at quarterback, along with 4-star corner Nygel Edmonds and stud defensive tackle Corey McDonald. Craig, a multi-talented athlete, is an issue for any defense in the league, while senior offensive lineman Joseph Scowden cites McDonald as, along with Father Ryan's Jeremy Darvin, "probably my toughest matchup of the year."

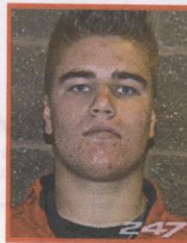
The season will be a whirlwind of competitive games, with nearly every region game likely to come down to the wire. My top 3 matchups for the year are as follows:

3. I'll go non-division to start. CPA v. Ensforth. Yes, CPA is finally playing someone from our division. The 2015 Lions are a team with lots of senior talent, led by quarterback Zach Weatherly, receivers Price Perdue and Joseph Richard, and stand-out linebacker John Orr. The Lions should give a fresh Ensforth squad a run for its money. As an advocate for our division, I would like to see Ensforth win...by a lot. (Yes, I just said that.)

2. MBA v. BA. Both teams have loads of talent. I expect a similar show to last year—a high-scoring, entertaining dogfight. Hopefully the Big Red Symphony will make an appearance at BA for this one.

1. MBA v. Ensforth. Of course. This rivalry is so unique. Both teams will give their all for this one, especially in what some pundits might call a "down year" for both programs. It will be interesting to see what kind of game it ends up being. My guess is that it will be somewhere in between the defensive state championship and the offensive regular-season game.

The last thing to do is get the season started. The players are ready, the coaches are ready, and the students and fans are ready. It's going to be a great season. Roll Red Roll!



LEFT: McCallie senior quarterback Ja Vaughn Craig. PHOTO: MaxPreps.com.

ABOVE: Ryan Johnson, Brentwood Academy. PHOTO: BrentwoodAcademy.com.

TOP: CPA senior quarterback Zach Weatherly. PHOTO: The Tennessean

BELOW: Brentwood Academy junior quarterback Jeremiah Oatsvall. PHOTO: BrentwoodAcademy.com.

BOTTOM: Father Ryan senior defensive tackle Jeremy Darvin. PHOTO: Scout.com



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THE 2015 MI



Name: Ty Chandler
First year of football? 2nd grade
Favorite athlete: Marshawn Lynch

Name: Michael Lee
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Usain Bolt

Name: Glenn Coleman
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Cam Newton

Name: Jordan Wilson
First year of football? 2nd grade
Favorite athlete: Calvin Johnson

Name: Jesse Turner
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Jordan Matthews

Name: KP Frazier
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Peyton Manning



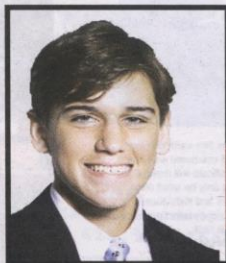
Name: Clarke Allen
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: John Wall



Name: Karlton Bruton
First year of football? 1st grade
Favorite athlete: TJ Yeldon

Name: D'on Cooler
First year of football? 2nd grade
Favorite athlete: Russell Wilson

Name: Cameron Wade
First year of football? 2nd grade
Favorite athlete: Patrick Peterson



Name: Charles West
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Eric Berry

Name: Brett Start
First year of football? 3rd
Favorite athlete: Peyton M



BA BIG RED



Name: JC Fogg
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Barry Sanders



Name: Phelps Gambill
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Cam Newton



Name: John Kelly
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Tom Brady

Name: Joe Scowden
First year of football: 3rd grade
Favorite athlete: DJ Mott

Name: Parker Bryan
First year of football? 7th grade
Favorite athlete: Rob Gronkowski

Name: Chapman Malone
First year of football? 1st grade
Favorite athlete: Flip Rodriguez



Name: Jim Garrett
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: JJ Watt



Name: David Gaw
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Tim Tebow



Name: Montgomery Owen
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Julian Edelman



Name: Sam Sullivan
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Tim Tebow



Name: Mac Lassing
First year of football? 5th grade
Favorite athlete: Dale Earnhardt Jr.

grade
anning

Maurice Patton Sits Down with The Bell Ringer

By: Joseph Scowden
Executive Editor

Having covered high school sports in Middle Tennessee since the mid 1980's, Maurice Patton knows his stuff. A few weeks ago, Big Red senior Joseph Scowden had the pleasure of setting up a phone interview with Mr. Patton, one of the few pundits to choose the Big Red over Ensworth in December's state championship game. In a sports-focused interview, Mr. Patton spoke on his background while praising the leadership of senior QB Glenn Coleman and making a strong pick for this year's state champion.

JS: Mr. Patton, what is your background in sports-writing, and how did Nashville in particular draw you in?

MP: I worked on my school newspaper in high school, and in college was on the staff of the MTSU student paper. I worked part time there, and then got my first full time job at the Franklin Review Appeal. I then transitioned to the Murfreesboro Daily News Journal, but in 1990 I started working at the Tennessean. I was there for 24 years, but left last November. These days, I'm freelancing while also writing a weekly article for the Contributor.

JS: As a writer, what is your daily schedule?

MP: Well I am about to start off do-

ing a radio show in the morning with Brad Hopkins, the former Tennessee Titan, and Jared Morse, who played defensive tackle at Vanderbilt. So my mornings will be occupied with that. In the afternoons, I work on my website and blog. I've been working at that for the last 10 months or so, covering mostly high school football, along with writing about professional football and other topics for the Contributor.

JS: You recently attended an MBA practice. Who stood out to you?

MP: I was really impressed with Glenn Coleman. He showed a lot of leadership especially as he fills the void left by Cole Euverard. Jordan and Ty stood out as well, as they're both extremely athletic and exciting to watch. The team looked professional and ready to roll for this season.

JS: Did MBA's run in last year's playoffs surprise you? How did that span of four weeks live up to your expectations?

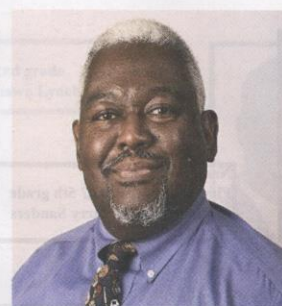
MP: Well, I actually wasn't very surprised with MBA's run at all. I took a lot of flack for picking MBA over Ensworth in the state game, but I stuck with it and was impressed with my prediction.

JS: In regards to the upcoming season, what team do you feel has the most talent? Which team could be viewed as a dark horse?



MP: I think that BA has the most talent, but I think the thing will be whether they can put it all together and execute on offense and defense. MBA lost a lot of seniors, but if both sides of the ball execute, the potential is there. Ensworth and MBA are in very similar boats this year, as both have to establish their starting quarterback situation. If I were to give an early ranking it would have to be MBA in first, BA in second, Ensworth in third. In terms of a dark horse, I would have to say watch out for McCallie. They have some great skill players, including their quarterback JaVaughn Craig. The potential for some big wins is there—just look at their game against Ensworth last year—but they can't fade like they did against MBA in the playoffs.

JS: What players are you looking forward to watching develop this year?



MP: Well, I think watching both of the BA quarterbacks this year will be very exciting. Oatsvall and Gavin Schoenwald are great options either way, and whichever one they choose will likely lead them to a very successful season. They also have three SEC-caliber linemen, which is a pretty big anomaly, and a tough matchup for opponents.

JS: Who is your August prediction for the state champion?

MP: If I had to pick, and it's a tough call, it would honestly be MBA. You just have to consider the season they had last year, the momentum that carries, and while they may have lost a lot of guys, they rallied this offseason and have been preparing very well.



DON'T COUNT THEM OUT JUST YET: Despite a tough opening loss to Trinity 45-0, it's pretty tough to write Ensworth off for the season—look for them to stay competitive. PHOTO: Ensworth.com

HARD AT WORK: Team 117 put in some serious work over the summer at both MBA and Bell Buckle. A strong group of seniors led this squad, and will be the backbone behind a team that truly believes it will be contending its second state championship in a row come December. PHOTO: Big Red Photos.

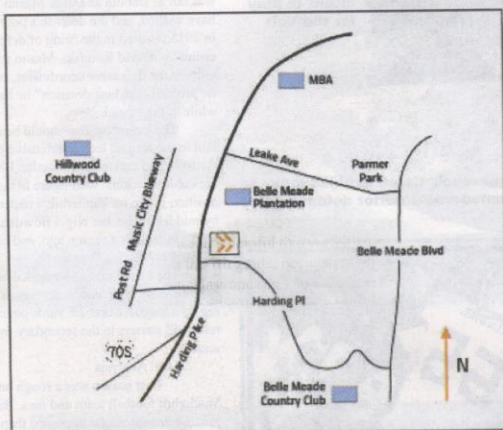


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FACE OFF: Vanderbilt vs. Tennessee

By: KP Frazier
Resident Vawls Enthusiast

If you are a Tennessee fan, the last couple of years have been extremely difficult. The Vols went three straight years without reaching a bowl game, and they even lost two years in a row to Vanderbilt—unfathomable if you ask me. When you lose two years in a row to a team that can't fill a 40,000 seat stadium, you know it is time for a serious change.

That change came in the form of head coach Butch Jones, the former Cincinnati head coach, who was hired in 2013. Jones, now heading into his third year in Knoxville, has brought a sense of hope to the heart of every Tennessee fan—hope that has not been present in a long time. His “Brick by Brick” motto, along with his back-to-back top 5 recruiting classes, has made Knoxville excited.

Coming off a powerful win in the Tax-Slayer bowl against Iowa, the Tennessee Vols are looking to have a big 2015 season.

For starters, Tennessee has an SEC high 20 returning starting players from the 2014-2015 season, including quarterback Joshua Dobbs and running back Jalen Hurd. In the 5 games Dobbs started last year he threw for 1206 yards, with a completion rate of 63.3%. Jalen Hurd looks to build off his 900 yard-5-touchdown season while sharing the load with an exciting addition to the offense, JUCO running back Alvin Kamara. Kamara, a former 5-star University of Alabama recruit, comes to the Vols for a second chance at SEC play. Standing 5'10 and weighing 215 pounds, he is extremely quick and very good at getting off tackles.

On the other side of the ball, Tennessee's defense looks to take huge steps forward this season. The Vols' fall recruiting season went very well as they signed notable names such as Hillsboro High's Kyle Phillips, Shy Tuttle, and the ever-entertaining Kahlil McKenzie. This trio will bring a powerful presence to the defensive tackle position, and along with returning starters Derek Barnett, Curt Maggitt and Jalen Reeve-Maybin, will make quarterbacking against the Vols an extremely difficult task.

The first test for this young team comes against Oklahoma on September 12th in Neyland Stadium. Last year, the Vols had a tough time matching up with the Sooners, losing 34-10 in a tough September loss. This year the Sooners will be playing a much more focused and experienced team. If the Volunteers can get that key Week 2 win, they will carry an extremely positive momentum heading into SEC play. Games against Florida, Georgia and Missouri appear to be must-win games, as the Vols lost to those 3 last year by a combined total of 12 points.

If the Volunteers want to contend in and potentially win the SEC East, those 3 victories will be huge in improving their record. Of course, these four games aren't the only ones on the Vols schedule. On November 28th they will host Vanderbilt University. But Tennessee fans don't circle that game on the calendar. We tend to find the game to be a waste of time.

My prediction for the Vols this year is 9-3. I believe that they have the potential to go undefeated, but not until 2016 or 2017. I fully expect Tennessee fans will be screaming Rocky Top from their roofs as the Vols win the SEC Title. So buckle up people, it's about to be a great ride.



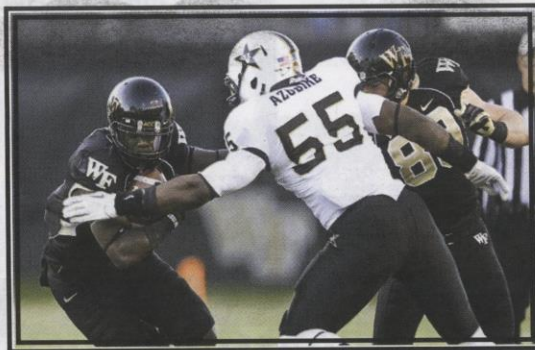
ALL ON HIS SHOULDERS: Junior quarterback Joshua Dobbs is regarded as the difference-maker between a good season and a great season for his Tennessee Volunteers.

UNDISPUTED: Sophomore tailback Ralph Webb enters this fall as the unquestioned starter in Vanderbilt's backfield, and looks to improve on his impressive freshman campaign



A FAMILY AFFAIR: Kahlil McKenzie had his entire family garbed in Tennessee orange as he signs his letter of intent to play for the Vols.

A FORCE ON THE INSIDE: Middle Tennessee's Caleb Azubike looks to be a consistent presence on the Commodores' interior defensive line



By: Grant Green
Vanderbilt Homer

Last season could not have gone much worse for Vanderbilt football and their first-year head coach, Derek Mason, as the Commodores won just three games overall and went 0-8 in SEC play. With a year under his belt coupled with major coaching staff changes and added experience to a young roster, Mason is hoping that the 2015 season will yield better results, but the SEC will be tough as always, especially for an offense still searching for playmakers.

Vanderbilt's offense in 2014 had significant trouble moving the football and scoring touchdowns. The 'Dores ranked last in the conference in total offense and rushing, while finishing second to last in passing. Even worse, the offense only scored nine times in eight SEC games.

Consequently, Mason fired the offensive coordinator, Karl Dorrell, and replaced him with Wisconsin offensive coordinator Andy Ludwig. Ludwig will be in charge of judging the quarterback situation, which was shaky last season. The competition for the job looks to be down to two players, redshirt sophomore Johnny McCrary and sophomore Wade Freebeck, who both started multiple games last season.

The run game should be a strength for the Commodores as redshirt sophomore Ralph Webb rushed for 912 yards last fall and looks to be a leader on the team going forward.

The receiving core had difficulty establishing itself in 2014, but figures to be improved as all of the major contributors return from a season ago. Keep an eye on redshirt sophomore receiver Trent Sherfield to bring some explosiveness to the offense. At tight end, the Commodores return their top pass-catcher, Steven Scheu, a highly productive offensive player who looks to improve his performance this fall.

The offensive line did not live up to expectations in 2014, but the group will include four returning starters and is poised to have a strong year up front.

Transitioning to a 3-4 defense last year was not as smooth as Derek Mason would have wished, and the defense's poor showing in 2015 resulted in the firing of defensive coordinator, David Kotulski. Mason then named himself the defensive coordinator, calling it “probably the best decision” he has made while at the school.

The defensive line should be a stand-out unit in the league, led by defensive end Caleb Azubike and tackle Adam Butler. Behind them are the linebackers, who figure to be the best position group on Vanderbilt's roster, anchored by middle linebacker Nigel Bowden, the team-leader in tackles a season ago, and outside linebacker Stephen Weatherly.

The Commodores struggled in pass defense, only intercepting six passes and giving up a league-worst 7.6 yards per catch, but return all starters in the secondary from last season.

Final Analysis

Last season was a rough one for the Vanderbilt football team and fans. But this year's team should be improved thanks to more experience on both sides of the football (the squad returns 18 starters) and coaching staff upgrades. The 'Dores have the opportunity to sneak up on some teams this fall, including the Tennessee Volunteers despite their flashy uniforms and large stadium. Overall, I predict a final 6-6 record for the 'Dores, with key wins over South Carolina, Houston and Kentucky.



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SCOTT PORTIS, CLASS OF '84
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Commodores Make Another Run, Look To Reload In 2015

By: Ben Coulthard
Sports Editor

Fresh off a National Championship in 2014, the Vanderbilt Commodores baseball team entered the 2015 season unsatisfied. One goal remained on their minds as they entered the season: win another title. With almost the entire 2014 team returning, Tim Corbin and his Commodore team began the season poised to make another run at Omaha and the College World Series.

Led by stars Dansby Swanson, Carson Fulmer, and Walker Buehler, the Commodores finished the regular season at the top of a loaded SEC East with a record of 48-10. Highlights of the season included winning series against rivals Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama and sweeping series against Arkansas, Auburn, Georgia, and Missouri. The Commodores entered the SEC Tournament with a top four seed, and finished runner-up in the tournament to a talented Florida team.

Vanderbilt entered the NCAA Tournament with a regional seed and hosted a regional series at "The Hawk" in Nashville. They won all three games in the regional, avenging an early season loss to in-state rival Lipscomb 9-1, and achieving convincing wins over Indiana 6-4 and Radford 21-0. The Commodores set single-game records for most hits, RBIs, triples, and hit by pitches in an NCAA tournament game in the victory over Radford.

The Commodores traveled to Champaign, Illinois next to face Illinois in a Super Regional to decide who would go to Omaha. In the opener, the Vanderbilt offense destroyed Illinois' All-American ace pitcher Kevin Duchene and the 'Dores let their star pitcher, Carson Fulmer, do the rest as the Commodores cruised to an easy 13-0 victory. In game two the Commodores displayed their ever-present will to win, producing a gutsy 4-2 victory, punching their return ticket to Omaha.

Things only got tougher for Vanderbilt in Omaha as they drew Cal State Fullerton in the first game. Fullerton started game one with their ace Thomas Eshelman on the mound. Eshelman, an All-American, had only walked seven batters the entire season leading up to the Vanderbilt game. He kept the Vanderbilt bats at bay for six innings until thunderstorms delayed the game until the next day. This was a turning point for Vanderbilt because it meant Eshelman would not return to pitch after the game resumed. Head coach Tim Corbin said, "Certainly coming into today, it was a re-set situation. We knew it was going to be a different scenario on the mound, a different attack, and the kids responded very well."

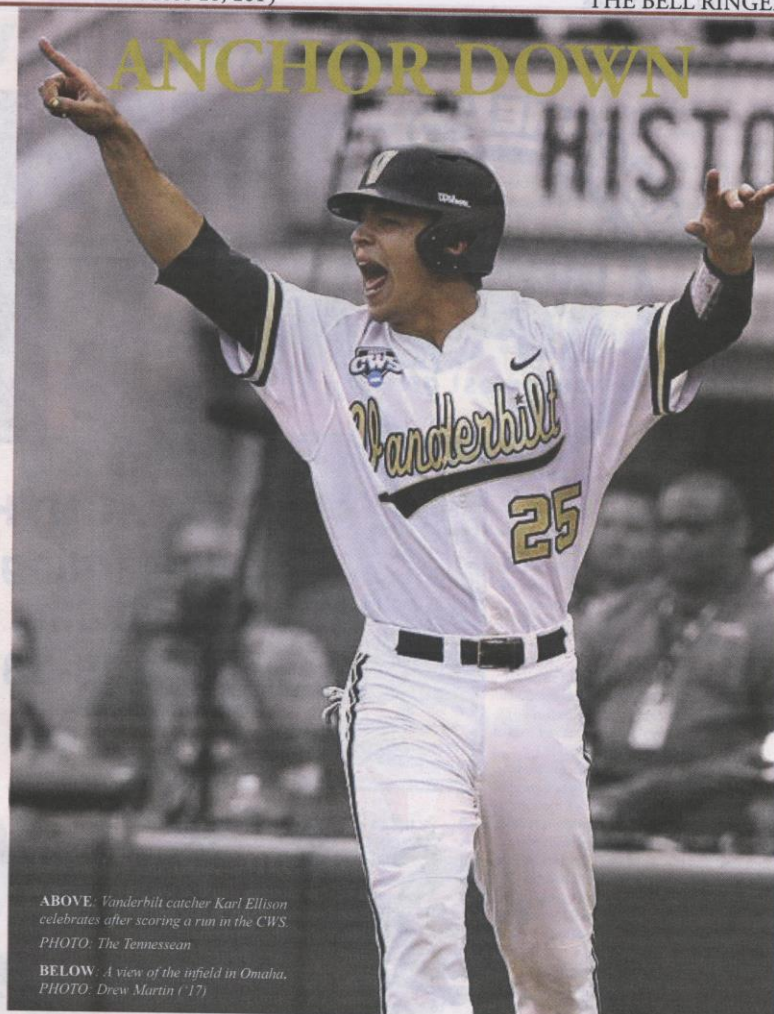
Vanderbilt not only responded very well; they answered in the biggest way possible as freshman Jereen Kendall hit a walk-off homerun in the bottom of the ninth inning to win the game.

In the next game, the Commodores faced TCU and yet another ace in Alex Young. Young and Vanderbilt's Phillip Pfeifer were locked in a pitcher's duel throughout the night until Vanderbilt 1B Zander Wiel hit a homerun just inside the left field foul pole. Wiel's homer was the first hit of the entire night for Vanderbilt, but proved to be the difference-maker. Pfeifer and closer Kyle Wright continued their domination on the mound as the Commodores won 1-0.

After a day off, Vanderbilt faced TCU again and Walker Buehler, another ace in Vanderbilt's plethora of starting pitchers, allowed only four hits and one run against TCU's offense. However, it looked like star right fielder Rhett Wiseman would not be able to continue play after getting drilled in the neck by a fastball in the first inning. But Wiseman remained in the lineup and ended up hitting a homerun in his second at-bat of the game, leading the Commodores to victory.

After the game, when asked why he didn't come out of the game as a precautionary measure, Wiseman said, "College World Series, baby. You'd have to kill me to take me out of the game, especially that early in the game. It's easy to go out there following Walker's lead on the mound. He brings so much energy to the team. By the third inning, I had forgotten about the neck."

Following their victory, the Commodores advanced to the College World Series final to face the Virginia Cavaliers for the second straight year. It seemed the Commodores wouldn't be stopped after winning eight postseason games in a row, especially with ace Carson Fulmer returning to the mound. Fulmer was at his usual best in game one, yielding only two hits in 7 and 2/3 scoreless innings. Freshman Will Toffey provided the offense and broke the tie with a two-run double in the sixth inning. The Commodore offense added three more runs in the seventh,



ABOVE: Vanderbilt catcher Karl Ellison celebrates after scoring a run in the CWS.

PHOTO: The Tennessean

BELOW: A view of the infield in Omaha.

PHOTO: Drew Martin ('17)

putting the Commodores one win away from back-to-back titles.

In game two, Virginia sent their normal centerfielder, Adam Haseley, to pitch and Haseley and closer Josh Sborz stymied the Commodores and handed Vanderbilt their first loss of the postseason and second shutout of the entire season, winning 3-0. This meant the title would be decided in a winner-takes-all third game.

In game three, Vanderbilt sent Walker Buehler to battle. Vanderbilt opened the game with two runs in the first inning on Dansby Swanson and Zander Wiel hits, but after the first inning, the Commodore bats simply went cold. Virginia pitcher Brandon Waddell gave up only two hits after the first inning and Cavalier freshman Pavin Smith homered and drove in three runs to propel the Cavaliers to their first national championship in school history. In the eighth inning, with a man on first, Dansby Swanson seemed he had checked his swing, but the first base umpire called him out, thus ending his final collegiate at-bat. Swanson showed great displeasure with the call, and for good reason. After this point, it seemed as if it just wasn't meant to be for the Commodores.

Even though the Commodores didn't end up winning the championship, it was certainly a season to remember. Dansby Swanson, Walker Buehler, and Carson Fulmer were all drafted in the MLB Draft and have already begun their professional careers. Swanson finished with a .330 average at Vanderbilt along with being named All-SEC in 2014, College World Series MVP in 2014, and finalist for the prestigious Golden Spikes Award for top college baseball player in 2015. He was also the number one overall pick in the 2015 MLB Draft. Buehler finished with a 21-7 record over three years with a 2.91 ERA. He was the first round pick of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the MLB Draft. Fulmer finished with a 24-3 record, a 1.99 ERA, and 14 saves over three years at Vanderbilt. He was named SEC Pitcher of the Year in 2015, was another finalist alongside Swanson for the Golden Spikes Award. Fulmer was the Chicago White Sox's first round pick in the MLB Draft. All three of these players will go down as three of the greatest players in Vanderbilt history, on and off the field.



Big Red Seniors Discuss College Commitments

By: Carter Lovvorn
Opinions Editor



Will Emerson
@williemerson

Extremely excited to say I have verbally committed to Stanford University!! Can't wait to be a Cardinal 🍁🌲🍁🍁🍁 #cali

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39 RETWEETS 158 FAVORITES



MBA is proud to have 3 members of the Class of 2016 currently committed to playing Division 1 college sports next year. This feat takes extreme dedication, and *The Bell Ringer* recently got to talk to Big Red seniors Connor Downey, Jordan Wilson, and Will Emerson about it.

Downey, who will be playing golf at Villanova University in Philadelphia, talked about the magnitude of work he has put in, citing in countless hours on the course and at the range, stating, "We all have natural talent, but our will to work is what makes us successful. I can't wait for my next step in college golf."

All three of the athletes cite the overwhelming nature of the recruiting process. Jordan Wilson's recruitment might have been the most unique, having not been heavily recruited for Division 1 football until this past February. Jordan stated that his biggest struggle was "not showing any favoritism to various schools." He can show some now, however, as he committed to UCLA in late July.

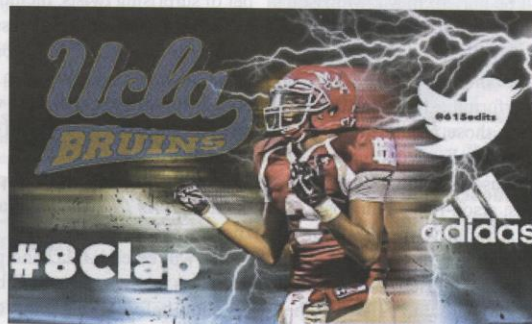
All three athletes state that they have no plans to de-commit or look at any other schools this fall.

Will Emerson's decision was a no-brainer. The minute Stanford contacted him, he was set. Will had some advice for any younger guys interested in playing at the next level. "While perfecting your strengths is important, it is also important to focus on your weaknesses because every player has room for improvement when they're in high school, no matter how good they are."

These athletes have put in lots of work to get where they are today, and it will be fun to watch them in college and see where they end up as they move on to the next level.



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>> *continued from front page*

That production was also my first time directing a competitive one-act. And in returning to directing them this year with the departure of Dr. Seay, it made sense for me to start back with a show that I have already directed.

NS: What's your favorite aspect of the script and set design?

CF: Well I really love the minimalistic style of the show, and the way in which we perform and travel with the set ties extremely well with the background and living situation of the characters. You see, the Bundren family is extremely rural and poor, and in their quest to move their matriarch's body to a larger town in Mississippi, they are forced to travel with very few tools and equipment. They really live off the land. In our performing situation, we transport our set to the regional competition by truck, and I have to be very selective in choosing set pieces to work with the script, as everything has to fit in one or two trucks. One journey is fictional, one journey is real, but the minimalistic style in which both my cast and the characters in this story travel really makes for an interesting dynamic, and adds

to the effect of the show.

NS: My final question- Is there any overlying theme that connects this year's shows?

CF: Absolutely! From the musical to our potential production of *Argonautika*, seemingly every main character is trying to learn about themselves while also striving to help those around them. In *Emma*, Eliza plays a matchmaker desperate to unite the students around her, but she ends up finding someone for herself along the way. In *As I Lay Dying*, every member of the cast is determined to fulfill their mother's final wish and bury her in his requested cemetery, but at the same time, they look to find help for themselves once they reach the town where she will be buried. In Mr. Morrison's *The Arsonists*, the main character Biedermann believes that in giving a home to two strangers, he is performing his civic duty and aiding those around him, but in reality he discovers himself and his house as being used for malicious, arson-related purpose.

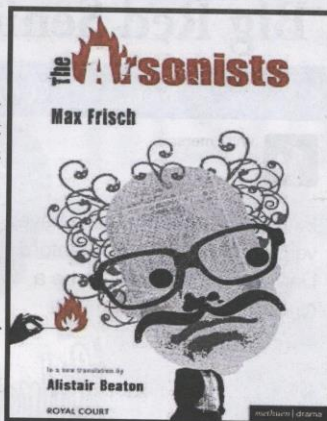
Finally, in *Argonautika*, Jason strives to find the Golden Fleece for himself, but must also guide his crew to safety on their journey. So overall, these shows

are conveniently very similar, and will make for a great dynamic within our theater as we move through the year."

As I Lay Dying will be performed for the school on October 10th, and then taken to competition over the weekend of October 23rd. If the show places first or second in the competition, the MBA players will transition to preparation for performing Mr. Morrison's *The Arsonists* on November 19th.

Following Christmas Break, Mr. Berry will begin his production of *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, which "tells the legend of Robin Hood with a number of surprising twists, including a Lady Marian oddly obsessed with skin conditions and a band of spoon-wielding Merry Men." A delight for all ages, the show will receive increased publicity in our December issue.

Following Mr. Berry's production, if *As I Lay Dying* places first or second in October, Dr. Fuller will extend AILD and perform it as the department's February show before taking it to North Carolina for the Southeastern



Theater Conference held the first week of March.

Should the show unfortunately place less than first or second in October, the MBA players will rally and perform its adaptation of Jason and Argonauts entitled *Argonautika* its February show. The February season holds the final full production until April, when Dr. Fuller's class of six Studio Theater students will direct their One-Acts.

This season promises to be great one, and look for more publicity regarding each show as their opening nights draw closer and closer!

REHEARSALS GALORE: The cast of *Emma* spends a great deal of time focusing in on the group aspect of the production. With such a large cast and extensive song list, nailing group numbers like the one pictured below is not easy for the cast. Being able to perform these with ease is essential to production. **PHOTO: Dr. Cal Fuller**



Emma to Hit High Notes

By: John Fioravanti
Asst. Features Editor

For their 18th theatrical collaboration, the Harpeth Hall Playmakers and MBA Players are teaming up to produce a musical unlike any other in their history.

"It's a different style and genre of show," says director Janette Klocko. "I love the fact that we are doing something that neither school has ever done before... the show will make everybody want to jump up on their feet and dance."

Emma is an off-the-wall contemporary pop musical based on Jane Austen's celebrated novel. Unlike recent musicals such as *Damn Yankees* and *Anything Goes*, it contains no typical Broadway numbers. It's also the first collaboration in long time not to feature a tap number. Instead, the entertainment stems from a semi-cliché yet humorous script—along with familiar pop music. Songs ranging from 80's hits such as "How Will I Know" to contemporary pop songs such as "Brave" and "Roar" make an appearance, all tunes made famous by female artists.

The show takes place at Highbury Prep, an expensive boarding school in the Southeast. Emma, played by Harpeth Hall's Eliza Trost, is a senior who has played matchmaker to two of the school's most beloved teachers, who intend to get married. The joy she finds in her success leads her to help others, but she is blind to the affections of her classmate Jeff Knightly, played by John Fioravanti '17, and unable to find her own path to love. The script follows Emma on her own journey to match her friends while highlighting the humorous aspects of the gossip at Highbury.

This performance will be the first official showing of Emma on any stage. The pressure is on for the cast, and they are excited to get the opportunity to perform such a new show. They've been working nonstop since late July, and it has not been easy. The work will pay off not only in a great show, but also in lasting relationships forged between castmates.

"This is the tightest cast I have ever been a part of. There are no cliques, no drama, and it seems like everyone gets along," said Patrick Andreen, who plays Philip, a student campaigning for student council president.

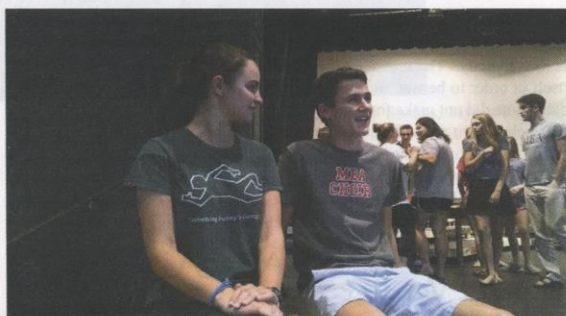
According to Harpeth Hall senior Corinne Gibson, the show has attracted interest from outside Nashville, and will be observed by the director of Saint Mary's Episcopal School in Memphis. Gibson stated, "It's pretty cool to be observed by a director from outside Nashville. I feel like it has something to do with the newness of the show, and I've heard of a lot of directors that will travel around their state to observe newer Off-Broadway shows in hopes of adapting them for their own theater departments."

They are now working vigorously to perfect every scene in time for opening night, September 2. Director Klocko knows the cast will get it done. "I have great faith that when the curtain opens on September 2nd, it's going to be outstanding. Hold onto your hats and be ready for more fun than you've had in a long time at the theater!"

With hit singles and a comical script, the show promises to be first-class entertainment, especially for high school students. It runs from September 2nd through the 5th, and just as Mrs. Klocko said, "It's going to be like nothing anyone has ever seen."



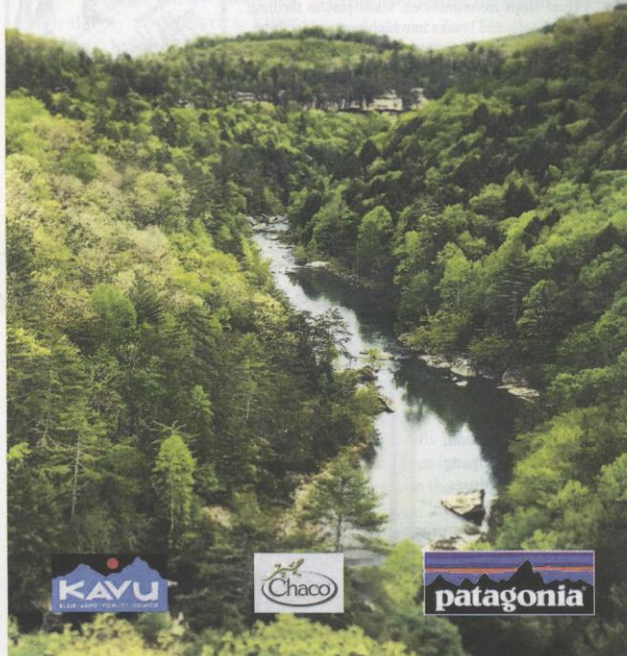
EAGERLY AT WORK. The cast has spent nearly the entire back half of the summer rehearsing complicated song and dance numbers. PHOTO: Doctor Cal Fuller



FALLING IN LOVE (MAYBE): John Fioravanti ('17) discusses character work with his costar, Eliza Trost (Harpeth Hall '16). PHOTO: Dr. Cal Fuller

Cumberland
Transit

adventure awaits.

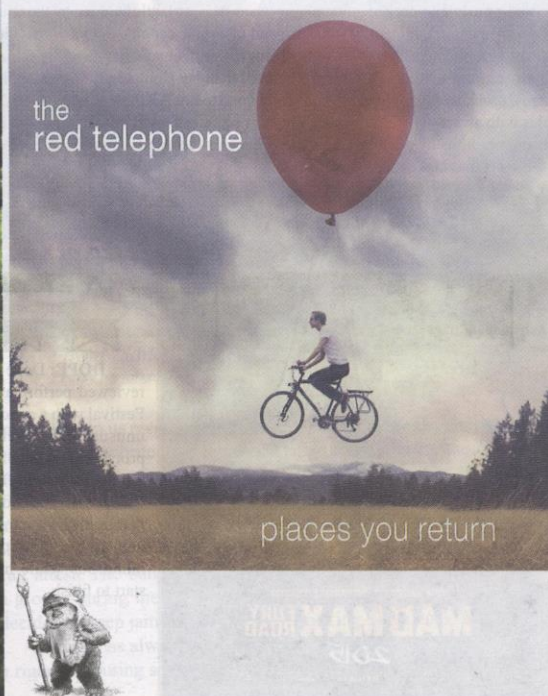


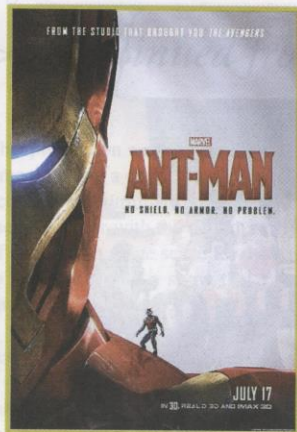
KAYU

Chaco

patagonia

Make sure to check out Mr. Matt Hutton's album *Places You Return* by his longtime band The Red Telephone. Available via CDBaby, iTunes, Amazon, and Spotify.





Capizzi's Corner: Movie Reviews

Throughout the upcoming year, sophomore superstar and Assistant Entertainment editor Jack Capizzi ('18) will offer his thoughts on films new and old.

In this issue, Jack weighs in on five summer blockbusters.

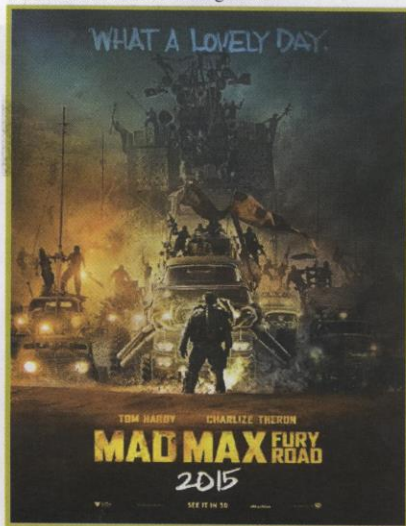
ANT-MAN: Ant-Man was a refreshing take on the vast Marvel Universe, exciting viewers with infectious special effects and enough attempted jokes to pass as a comedy. The movie features Paul Rudd as a convict who must prove himself in order to be free from the law and see his daughter again. As the plot and dialogue did not make for a memorable acting performance, audiences were more likely drawn in by the curiosity over how much an ant-sized hero can accomplish when battling evil. It was a good flick, but as other Marvel series like Thor have proven, a sequel is only going to bring it down. As the film ended, the line "Ant-Man Will Return" appeared on screen, and all I could think of was, "Alright Marvel. Cha-Ching."

Capizzi Verdict



Capizzi Verdict

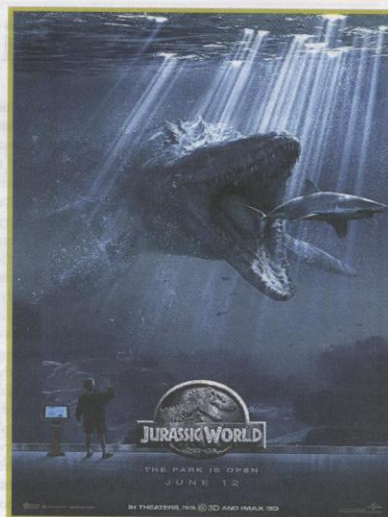
MAD MAX: FURY ROAD: Sporting demonic warlords, a tribe of diabolists (including a double-necked guitar player who rides into battle hanging by the strings of a war machine), human blood-bags, and of course car chases that words alone cannot describe, Mad Max: Fury Road was the perfect summer movie. Featuring an all-star cast including Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, and, of course, Tom Hardy, probably my favorite actor in Hollywood today. All the leads delivered their roles with award-winning finesse. The film sets itself apart of the rest of the pile of summer films by combining ludacris elements to sustain a plot as attractive as the effects that make it unforgettable.



Capizzi Verdict



DOPE: Dope followed up its positively-reviewed performance at the Sundance Film Festival with a solid box office run. The film's unusual but enveloping storyline follows protagonist Malcolm and his "geeky" 90's-hip-hop-obsessed friends through Inglewood, California. The story of their unlikely gang getting thrown into the underworld of drugs, nightclubs, and violence is exhilarating and humorous while maintaining balance from start to finish.



JURASSIC WORLD: While the characters were rather two-dimensional and a third of the movie was just advertising for the likes of Coke, Mercedes, Samsung, and many other companies, Jurassic World kept the audience's excitement up with seemingly more CGI in 120 minutes than has been used in all of the past forty years of film. All in all, it looked great, was fun for the audience, and was a good one-time watch for me.

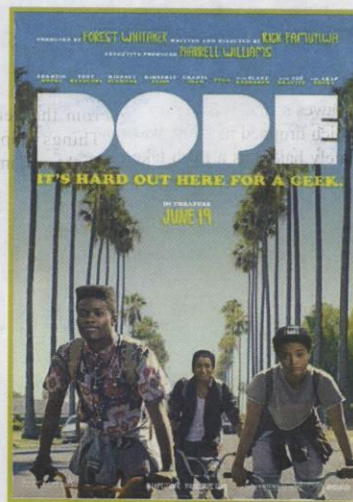
Capizzi Verdict



Capizzi Verdict



MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION: surpassed any expectations by proving that a nearly 20-year-old franchise can make high-quality films. While it was corny at points, the plotline following Special Agent Hunt stayed interesting. Hunt stops assassinations, takes part in thrilling car chases, and breaks into high security facilities, all to stop a global terror network. The film is highlighted by the appearance of faces old and new like Simon Pegg and Alec Baldwin, and of course, the real reason people go to see the Mission Impossible movies, Tom Cruise.



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FLUME

GRAMATIK

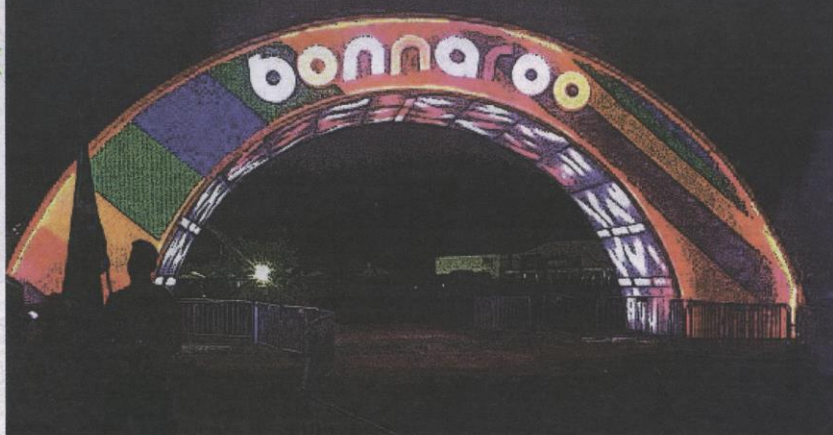
TOVE LO

KENDRICK
LAMAR

G-EAZY

Bonnaroo Lives Up to the Hype

By: Nolan Spear
Editor-in-Chief



HOZIER

SLAYER

ODESZA

MUMFORD
AND SONSBOY
NAMED
BANJO

There are many excellent qualities about the state of Tennessee, but the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival may be one of the finest. Held in Manchester, Tennessee during every summer since 2002, Bonnaroo has grown from a grassroots festival featuring less than 50 acts to a worldwide phenomenon playing host to nearly 100 artists, including legends such as Billy Joel, Robert Plant and My

Morning Jacket this past summer.

I, along with Connor Oman ('16), Grayson Lester ('16), Jack King ('16) and Stephen Richey ('16) and a host of other Big Red students, was lucky enough to attend this unbelievable festival in June, and can absolutely say it was an unparalleled experience.

The greatest thing about the festival is the attitude of the people. You

rarely hear anyone complaining about the heat, foot pain or dehydration. Instead, all 80,000+ people seem genuinely happy to be there, fully absorbed in the music surrounding them.

I arrived early on Thursday, June 11th, and quickly set up my spot in a "Group Camping site" full of MBA, Harpeth Hall and Ensworth students. Over the next three days, I saw acts like

Alabama Shakes, Flying Lotus, Earth Wind and Fire, SZA, Bassnectar and Flume. It was hot, it was dirty, and by the end about the only thing I wanted to do was take a nice, long nap.

Cleanliness and heat aside, it was one of the best weekends of my life, and I would recommend it to anyone who loves music and having a good time.

New Dawes Album Excites Fans

By: Peter Taylor
Entertainment Editor

What do you get when you mash deeply poetic lyrics, killer musicians, beautiful three part vocal harmonies and a classic 70's sensibility?

You get Dawes—or, in my humble opinion, the best folk rock band since the original masters defined the genre nearly fifty years ago.

Dawes's first record *North Hills*, which dropped in 2009, was immediately hailed as a fresh take on a classic sound, compared to greats such as Bruce Springsteen and the Band. On their following two efforts, *Nothing is Wrong* and *Stories Don't End*, the group continued to define their uniquely familiar style of metaphorical lyrics sung in perfect harmonies accompanied by killer instrumentals.

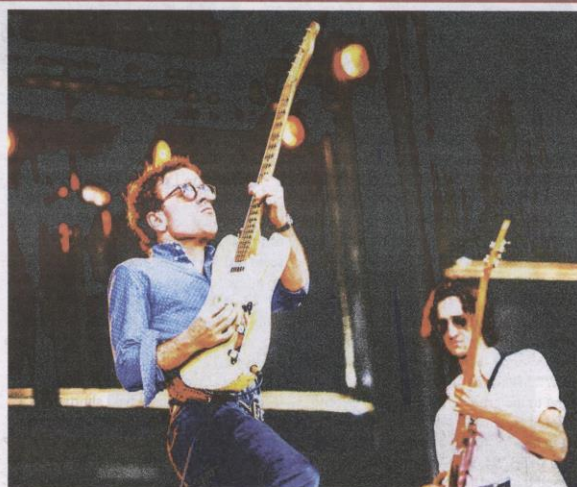
At the heart of the group's sound is the singer-guitarist Taylor Goldsmith. The writer of all of the group's songs, he draws influence not only from great songwriters

like Bob Dylan and Neil Young but also classic authors like Ernest Hemingway and Marcel Proust. He's a killer guitar player, too, and carries a beautiful tenor vocal range. Some guys really have it all!

Along with younger brother Griffin Goldsmith on drums, keyboard player Tay Strathairn and bassist Wylie Gelber, the quartet proves itself an unstoppable force, particularly through their airtight vocal harmonies reminiscent of the legendary Crosby, Stills, and Nash.

Their newest effort, *All Your Favorite Bands*, is a perfect display of what makes Dawes so special. From the very alt-radio friendly "Things Happen" to the rocking "Right on Time" to the sentimental title track, the nine-song record has "a little bit of everything," to quote one of their signature songs. Though recognizably Dawes, the album also displays the band's continual growth, with less acoustic guitar than previous records and a heavier emphasis on the group's instrumental prowess.

Part of the growth in Dawes's sound comes from having *All Your Favorite Bands* recorded in an almost completely live setting. On previous records, Dawes was



Live from Manchester, Tennessee: Dawes plays a stunning set during a Friday performance on Bonnaroo's 'What Stage.' PHOTO: THE VIEW

methodical in its recording process; on *All Your Favorite Bands*, spontaneity is king. The final track, "Now That It's Too Late Maria," clocking in at 9:56, was originally a much shorter song, as YouTube versions can attest. The band just got into a groove during the recording and decided to keep jamming.

Dawes has always maintained a rigorous touring schedule to pro-

mote their records. They're currently touring all across the country, and will make a stop at the Pilgrimage Music Festival right here in Nashville the weekend of September 26-27.

Legendary television host David Letterman put it best: "If you're looking for a rock and roll band, [Dawes] is pretty much the best you've got."

Freshman Eyes Become Wide Open

By: Sam Funk
New to the Game

In the minds of the ninth graders, the summer of 2K15 was one to remember. However, the summer was suddenly interrupted by the emails from Mr. Norton. These emails meant only one thing: Montgomery Bell Academy was back in session.

For most ninth grade students, the summer was free of school-related activities, except for the boys playing football. Early morning workouts in intense heat left the "Gentlemen" tired and exhausted, but prepared for the upcoming season.

The debate dream team of **Atticus Glenn** and **Julian Haberman** won the Middle School National Debate Championship. Not only did Atticus win the debate championship, but he also plans

to take down every single person in the spaghetti supper tickets sale.

The high school golf team has been on the grind this summer. With hopes to win the state championship behind the fearless leadership of Mr. Sean Jackson, the MBA golfers do not plan to disappoint during this promising season.

Speaking of promising seasons, the MBA crew team aspires to win some regattas. The face of freshman crew, **Franklin Frazier**, believes that the crew team has a very bright future.

Freshman year should have a bright future in itself. Homecoming is just around the corner, and most of the freshmen have already



ABSOLUTELY INSANE: Make sure to check out permanent freshman McClain Portis's YouTube page "Ultimate Insanity." Just a few weeks ago, McClain and his team of guys managed to get a video they created (screenshot shown above) featured on a late night edition of SportsCenter.

called "dibs" on the girls. Also, freshmen can now begin to paint up during the football games. Even though some eighth grade boys decided to sneak some paint into the games last year and Ms. Stewart shut it down, this will technically be the first time in which the ninth grade fans will be able to "legally" paint up.

With the plethora of events for the ninth graders to look forward to, the freshmen definitely have a year to look forward to.



Junior Class Ascends in the Hierarchy

By: Turner Johnson
He Drives a "RollsRoyse"

As summer comes to a close, and Junior year is now upon the Class of 2017, we reflect on how we grew as men this summer.

As soon as exams finished, Team 117 hit the field for spring practice. New-comers **Aubrey "Devil" Greene**, **Connor "Every Girl's Best Friend" Mulloy**, and **Gabe "Who's that Flow-God?" Mendoza** all hit the field ready to get to the grind. Unfortunately, Greene suffered from severe shin-splints, resulting in him losing his starting tight end spot. **Drew "HIT MAN" Powell** has also missed out big time because of "shin-splints". Additionally, **Ryan "I mean you clearly use steroids" Kosson** has been sidelined with a serious concussion. Other notable juniors getting playing time include **Richard White**, **Luke Byrge**, and surprisingly, **Ty Chandler**. I for one am extremely excited to see if Chandler can break into the starting running back rotation this year.

In other news, **Will (Mr. President) Hoffman** is gearing up for his third term in office. He also is looking to get married, lose some weight, stop sleeping in his driveway, and eventually, after a long road home, settle down with his wife and kids. Hoffman is coming back from break with a number of great ideas brew-

ing in his head, including but not limited to:

- "Am I going to live through November 5th?"
- "What seemingly-depressed tweet can I put out tonight that will make me seem sad, and emotional, and maybe pick up a few favorites along the way?"
- "Does my obscure Brandon Jennings Detroit Pistons shirt in my Twitter bio make girls think I'm some sort of retro sports fan?"
- "If I wear a white polo with a college logo on it, some khaki shorts with a brown belt, my sperry's and a nice sweat brewing on my head, does that mean I have a dad bod?"
- "Am I going to be able to visit Mac this fall at Georgia? Gosh I wish I could be a pledge like him."

Clearly, Will has been giving his life some reflection. Everyone please keep this emotional guy in your prayers.

All in all, the class of 2017 is brimming with excitement to have another great year on the hill. Unfortunately, junior class artist extraordinaire, **Rush Gorney**, decided that that orange school was a better fit for him than The Hill.

Please keep Sam Garrett in your thoughts.
Stay classy, gentlemen.



ALONE IN HIS FEELINGS: Will Hoffman had tough summer. Everyone please pray for Will.



A SUMMER OF LOVE: Logan Cashwell really enjoys his time at the fair.

FLOWGOD: Jack Hayles had a really good time at "camp" this summer. No, he still hasn't made "The Move."

Sophomores Feign Ignorance

By: Ty Allen and Philip Scholar
World Travelers

The Class of 2018 has kept busy this summer. Ty Allen and Miller Freeman attended the African Leadership Academy in South Africa, where they learned a lot about Africa culture. They hope to teach people that not all Africans have Ebola, even though Ty thought he got a different African disease after one exciting night.

Brady Slinger had an interesting experience on a History Grant through which he traveled to Gettysburg, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. He is still being pursued by the Philadelphia police for breaking the liberty bell. Philip Scholar also went to D.C., and posed as a

seventeen year old version of himself in order to impress the ladies.

Many sophomores attended the Middlebury Monterey Language Academy to study French, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, and German. Charlie Ma encapsulated the experience best: "Going on immersion is a superb way to not only learn your targeted language, but to also learn about yourself and others. For example, I learned that I will never play frisbee with Andrew Duffley again after he broke my arm in a tragic frisbee accident." Jack Crawford found out that Spanish really is a romantic language, while James McKnight found that just talking won't do all the work.

As far as romance this summer, Wes

Hall has decided that he wants to settle down with a nice girl. Alexander Roberts has been thinking of the best way to move onto new horizons. We also learned that Zach Smith does not worry about competition when it comes to his girlfriend. And we found that while Jackson Abby's truck may be big, it does not have enough hiding spots.

McClain Portis started sophomore year with a bang by getting on Sportcenter and other news channels. McClain and friends were surprised when recognized as YouTube sensations at Above All Trampolines—a fabulous location for any first date.

Ultimate Insanity is becoming a really big deal, to the surprise of many.



Carter has been spending a lot of time at the orthodontist, and with females.

McClain Portis had doubts about his potential for success. "I first I thought I was going to be too small, but then I realized that just because you're small doesn't mean that you can't do it." So if anyone has not already, check out Ultimate Insanity's YouTube page for a good time.

Seniors Love the Offseason

By: Nolan Spear
Dixie Chicks Enthusiast

Well Big Red, it's been a long, illustrious summer for your rising seniors. Did we do our summer reading? Of course! Did the senior football players love every second of their workouts? Absolutely! The summer was weird and wild, and most of us loved every second of it.

In June, senior QB1 Glenn "Carl" Coleman decided this summer was his time to shine. He took advantage of every opportunity to assert his dominance. Whether it was nailing corner routes to Jordan "Steven's Basement" Wilson or taking mysterious trips to the land known as "RI," Glenn never really stopped balling this summer. The ladies weren't a problem either. He won't ever talk about it, but Ole' Carl has been up to some tricks. Stay tuned for more updates.

On a separate note, I just have to give a shoutout to my boy Brodie Poe for doing a lot of big things this summer. He started things off by getting cuffed in early June, a feat deserving of recognition on its own. He then transitioned to "vaca-

tioning" in Nantucket, and finished the summer by making a strong investment in the world of Segways. Honestly, we gotta applaud Mr. Poe's investment strategy there.

In a different place and different world, we turn to Russell "12-ounce Curly" McGinn. My old friend Rusty had a big summer, whether it was getting in early summer reps for Coach Deutsch at the ice rink or just enjoying some time by his pool, ole Russ was never up to much, and that's just how he likes it.

In the world of athletics, everyone make sure to give Will Emerson, Connor Downey, and Jordan Wilson a big congrats on their commitments to play Division 1 sports. That's a big deal, and the staff at The Bell Ringer really hopes more seniors follow in their footsteps in terms of commitments. Jack King is doing just fine. No jokes regarding Jack so far, but I'm sure once college visits start rolling around, he'll have ample mentions within this publication. Everyone keep an eye out for Sensei Alwis aka Buddha, aka Yavin Alwis, in the halls. He remains as good looking as ever, and as wise as always. Everyone keep Stephen Richey and Alex Hilburn in their thoughts.

Start the year off strong, boys. The first quarter is a big one, and colleges see your grades. We're at the bottom of the slide. We haven't slid off just yet, but we can see it coming. It's there for the taking. Let's work towards it.

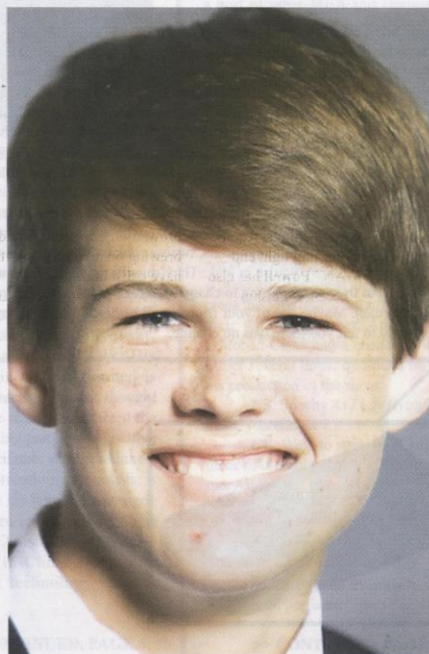
Roll Red.

#PRAYFORSCOW: Scowden has become emotional. Everyone please #PrayforScow.



CARL: QB1 loves making plays, especially on mission trips.

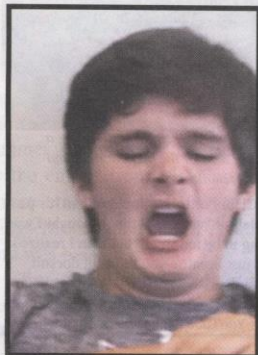
FACE OF CHAMPION: Most heroes wear capes, but Sam Anderson is an exception.



Dust in the wind

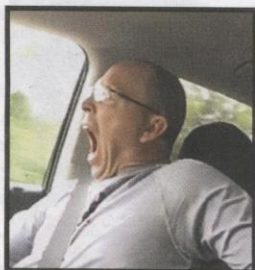
A BACK TO SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

At its core, MBA is a community that searches for knowledge. With that being said, learning how to properly ask a question is a vital skill for all students to have. And after a few years on the Hill, you begin to notice a few questions that get asked more than a few times. In this issue, *The Bell Ringer* editors came up with a few loaded questions that float around campus like the Lowry smell on a hot Tuesday afternoon.



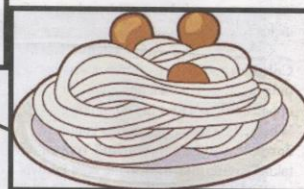
"How much sleep did you get last night?"

Ah, the over-bearing question that floats around all of MBA. It is a question used by most as a sign of power, and decides the class hierarchy of the day. "So, how much sleep did you really get last night?" A better question would be, "Who had the least amount of sleep?" It seems to be a common principle that the one who was procrastinating the most, who was able to push the limits of the "MBA Way" the most and still get his work done, is the king of the class for that day. Of course, this comes with a price. Living up to the expectation of the guy who "doesn't sleep" is a lot more difficult than one might assume. Maybe, just maybe, you can stay up late for two nights, three if you live on Red Bull and coffee. The rarity of an all-nighter, a sign of a true champion, may be accomplished every once in a while, giving power to that individual for at least a few days during exam season. But there will be a night when the king must be dethroned. There will be one night when the king just can't take it anymore and he has to give into his comfy palace. Finally, the king closes his eyes, and it's all over.



"What's for lunch today? Pasta?"

Every MBA student remembers when he first began to realize how often Sage's delicious pasta bar is served to the hungry boys of the Hill. Indeed, the faculty even instructs seniors to begin the ultimate indoctrination process by encouraging their seventh-grade brothers to enjoy the Dining Hall's constant granular abundance as fuel for the endless studying. At first the average student tires of the noodles, or, when he's lucky, the legendary round penne. This pasta is always hidden by sauce made with equal parts red water and full, uncut tomatoes. The mark of a true MBA student, however, is one who grows to relish the monotonous... err, the *consistent* characteristic of daily life on the Hill.



"Dude can I have a dollar for a brownie?"

It's a classic MBA question. This statement means someone is really desperate for a little bit of food when lunch is literally in 50 minutes, too lazy to walk to the Dining Hall to wait in line, or doesn't understand just how valuable anything chocolate is on the MBA campus. Normally heard near Wallace around break from one student (typically a Microbe) who has absolutely no clue how MBA Snack Bar prices work (hint: a dollar simply isn't gonna be enough) or thinks they are crafty enough to make a dollar, but really is ripping off their friend. Normally, after this question is asked, one might hear replies such as, "I'll give you the crumbs for your dollar" (Just as "crafty" as the money-grubber) or "You better pay me back later." (Never happens. Never.) However, if you are lucky enough to meet someone who decided today would be a great day to buy three chicken biscuits, twelve cookies, five brownies, and a Jungle Juice (cost: 23.75), you're in luck. They're willing to give you one of their brownies, but they're still going to charge you for it (hint: bring a twenty next time for break). Maybe one of your friends will be nice enough to buy you something, only to tell you there was no change.



"What game is that on your computer?"

The words that no student wants to hear while taking notes. The feared question. Let's face it, *Angry Birds* may be the most addictive computer game since *Angry Birds*, but that doesn't mean that you should play it incessantly. While taking notes on a computer, there are some vital points to keep in mind. First, always turn your brightness down to the lowest possible setting to prevent the hawk-like eyes of your history teacher from seeing your blob making the top 10 list on agar. Secondly, make sure to pick a seat that will allow maximum stealth. The back makes it too obvious, so go for a seat somewhere near the middle of the classroom on the edge. An often overlooked aspect is the giant glass door to enter every room which allows for passing teachers in the hallway to catch a sneak peek at your *COD* high score. Lastly, make sure that you actually take some notes between reboots and losses. Not only will these note breaks provide you with material to study later, they will also provide you an activity to take your mind off of the fact that you were just dethroned from your number one position on *Angar*. If you keep all this in mind, you'll never have to answer the feared "What game are you playing on your computer?" statement, and yet you'll still be able to maintain your high score.

